COLONY OF MAURITIUS

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical and Health Department

1956

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PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY
J. ELIEL FELIX, I.S.O., GOVERNMENT PRINTER,
PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS
NOVEMBER 1958

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Index to Appendices, Tables and Figures

Annual Report of the Medical and Health Department, 1956

PART I

General Review

The Island lies between latitude 19°50 and 20°31 South and longitude 57°18 and 57°48 East of Greenwich. The total length North to South is nearly 39 miles and its breadth East to West is 29 miles. The area of the island is 716 square miles and that of the islets round the coast 4 square miles, making a total of 720 square miles (460,800 acres). The ground rises to an elongated central plateau, lying roughly North-South, the altitude of which above sea level is 1,800—1,900 feet. It is bounded on the North, East and South-West by abrupt and broken mountain ridges. On the South and South-East it slopes gradually to the sea. The highest mountain peak is 2,711 feet.

2. Although Mauritius lies just within the tropics, its climate is on the whole comparatively mild and equable. There are, however, very sensible variations of climate in the different parts of the island. The maximum shade temperature recorded on the northern plains (180 feet above sea-level) has never exceeded 95°F (35°C) and over the central tableland (1,800 feet) the maximum seldom reaches 80°F (27°C), but the high relative humidity renders the heat oppressive at certain times of the year and causes considerable discomfort, especially in the lowlands. For the same reason, the winter in the highlands is uncomfortable, though the temperature never falls below 45°F (70°C).

3. Rainfall is abundant, but varies considerably in different parts. The annual mean varies from less than 30 inches on the north and west coast to 150 inches in parts of the central plateau, where in some years the rainfall has been known to reach nearly 200 inches. Tropical cyclones are frequent in the vicinity of the Island during the summer months (December to April) and have at times caused considerable damage to crops, trees and structures, and on rare occasions, even loss of life. The last cyclone to pass over Mauritius was in 1945, when wind forces of about 100 miles per hour were experienced.

4. The following notes summarize the main weather features for the year 1956 :—

(a) Cyclones.—Only the cyclone of January 23rd presented any threat to Mauritius and it moved past the island at a distance of over 200 miles to the north giving only fairly strong winds which caused no appreciable damage.

(b) Rainfall—Amounts near normal fell in January, and February was fairly wet but thereafter rainfall was below normal in every month except December. April was unusually dry with less than half the usual average of 10 inches for the whole island. In the winter and spring months July to November, the average fall over the island was about 10 inches for the four months instead of the normal 18 inches. By November therefore, water storage was very low, but quantities were replenished in December.

(c) Temperatures and sunshine.—Variations of temperature from the seasonal normal are usually very low in Mauritius, where an oceanic climate is enjoyed. In 1956 the summer and autumn were considerably cooler than normal; in particular during the mid-summer month of February, day temperatures were 1½°C low and in January and March nearly 1°C low. On the other hand, after July and until the end of the year, temperatures were somewhat above normal, mainly owing to the lack of the fresh trade winds which are characteristic of winter and early autumn.

The duration of bright sunshine was 6 per cent greater than normal for the whole year. August and November had slightly less than normal but in all other months amounts were high; from March to June amounts were some 10 per cent higher than normal, and October was particularly sunny with nearly 300 hours of sunshine over most of the island.

(d) Humidity.—The low rainfalls of April and August to November were reflected in relative humidities 5 to 8 per cent below the seasonal normal.

5. The population lives mainly on the proceeds of sales of its sugar: the whole economy being at present dependent on this single crop which constitutes some 97 per cent of the domestic exports. The year 1956 was again one of prosperity, the sugar crop having reached a further record figure: 571,893 tons as compared to 533,341 for 1955 and 498,742 for 1954.

The most recent plan concerned with the development of the Colony's resources has taken into account an appreciable extension of the tea industry and this project, when completed, should naturally strengthen the economy of the island. The bulk of the food required continues to be imported as Mauritius produces, apart from vegetables and fruits, insignificant quantities of rice, maize, potatoes and other root crops.

6. First and foremost is the problem of the rapid growth of population outstripping the available medical facilities. The live births during the year numbered 24,910, a figure which gives a rate of 43·8 per 1,000 of the mid-year population and represents an increase of 1,940 on the number of births for 1955 and an increase of 3,525 over the average number of births for the ten years preceding 1956.

Mauritius is already overpopulated in relation to its resources, and the increase in the natural growth of the population is taking place at an exorbitant rate in an island which is only 720 square miles in area. The number of inhabitants is now well over three times what it was a century ago and has augmented from 428,273 in 1946 to 579,123 in 1956.

7. The Government continued to provide facilities for post-graduate specialisation of professionals and during the year under review one Medical Officer passed the final examination for the F. F. A., two the primary F. R. C. S., while a fourth obtained the D. M. R. D. Two more Medical Officers were following the course leading to the D.P.H., one specialising in pathology with the intention of sitting for the D. C. P. in 1957 and another was preparing for the D. P. M. and following a course on electro-encephalography.

8. Development and expansion of the hospital services continued without break in 1956. The most notable event was the opening on the 30th September of the New Orthopaedic Centre by Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret an institution which, when fully completed, will have 216 beds. Her Royal Highness graciously consented to the new hospital being named "The Princess Margaret Orthopaedic Centre."

Earlier in September, Lady Scott opened the first residential training school for nurses which has been built near the Victoria Hospital in Quatre Bornes. The First Health Centre at Rose Hill opened at the beginning of February, and towards the end of the year work was commenced on a new block, destined to accommodate sixty patients at the Mental Hospital, Beau Bassin, and on an Ophthalmic Unit which will comprise an out-patient department, an operating theatre and ward accommodation for thirty patients.

9. The medical capital building programme was revised at the beginning of the year and provides for a total estimate of just over 10,000,000 rupees. The following projects were put in hand immediately so as to enable actual construction to start as early as possible in 1957 : a tuberculosis hospital of 190 beds with, as an adjunct, a large out-patient department, a new central public health laboratory, a large out-patient and administrative block for the Civil Hospital, Port Louis, and a new hospital of 68 beds for the dependency of Rodrigues.

10. The general out-patient dispensary service was strengthened by the opening of a new modern dispensary to replace the temporary arrangements which have been made for a static dispensary at Piton in the district of Riviere du Rempart. This service provides, in addition to the general out-patient clinics at the ten hospitals of the Colony, 37 out-door dispensaries open daily to patients and four mobile units which visit outlying areas at regular intervals. Maximum use continues to be made of the satisfactory network of out-patient departments in order to save beds and to give immediate attention to patients requiring medical care.

11. The figures given hereunder show the increase in the demands made on the services provided :—

Year	*In-patients all hospitals*	*Out-pat. static dispensaries*	*Out-pat. mobile dispensaries*	*Surgical Operations*	*Examination made at the P.H Laboratory*
1930	26,773	189,656	—	6,017	14,199
1935	27,908	270,726	—	7,509	9,269
1940	28,073	378,588	—	10,129	not available
1945	27,321	293,621	—	8,377	20,522
1950	28,303	303,549	46,653	14,680	32,249
1956	30,971	501,072	81,822	39,544	118,118

12. The following health facilities were available in the island in 1956 :—

A. Medical and Health Staff

	Government	*Private*
Registered doctors	55	61
Principal Matron	1	—
Matrons	4	—
Senior Nursing Sisters	5	—
Nurses in hospitals	166	—
Dressers in hospitals	210	—
Superintendent of Midwives	1	—
Midwives	69	—
Sanitary Inspectors	62	—
X—Ray Specialists	1	1
Assistant Radiologist	1	—
X—Ray technicians	5	—
Pharmacists	2	45
Dentists	4	25

B. Governmemt Institutions

	No. of Institutions	*No. of beds*
General Hospitals	8	1,207
Dispensaries (including 2 in the Prisons) ...	48	—
Specialised Units :—		
(a) Maternity and Child Welfare Centres ...	9	—
(b) Leprosarium	1	62
(c) Mental Hospital	1	707
(d) Orthopaedic Hospital	1	157
(e) Prisons Hospitals	2	46
Mobile Units :—		
(a) Dispensaries	4 units	
(b) Ante-natal clinic	1 unit	
(c) Dental clinics	2 units	

C. Private Institutions

Hospitals on sugar estates	33	738
Dispensaries on sugar estates	8	—
Nursing Homes	4	—

13. The success of the preventive services is reflected in the figures published hereunder :—

Year	*Population*	*Birth rate*	*Death rate*	*Infant mortality rate*	*Maternal mortality rate*
1946	424,219	38·7	29·5	145·2	10·39
1947	432,422	43·8	20·1	113·9	5·25
1948	441,822	43·1	23·8	186·2	4·13
1949	444,521	46·0	16·6	91·0	3·79
1950	464,735	49·7	13·9	76·3	3·51
1951	483,859	47·5	14·9	83·5	3·24
1952	501,469	48·1	14.8	80·8	3·20
1953	516,525	46·3	16·1	93·5	2·71
1954	530,461	41·3	16·0	81·1	1·70
1955	549,094	41·8	12·9	67·2	1·47
1956	568,886	43·8	11·8	66·0	2·13

14. Anæmia and malnutrition continue to be one of the most serious public health problems in Mauritius. Following the visit in 1955 of Professor A. W. Woodruff, F. R. C. P., of the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, the World Health Organization agreed to provide technical assistance to enable the local nutrition problem to be fully investigated. The Organisation's Medical Haematologist arrived in August and started work immediately. A non-medical nutritionist was due to arrive early in 1957.

15. Tuberculosis is another problem which is coming with increasing prominence to the fore. During the year under review, the anti-tuberculosis work of the Health Department continued to expand, and a World Health Organization team consisting of one Medical Officer, one Statistician and one Public Health Nurse arrived in May to assist in a survey which was started some years before. The team carried out a tuberculin sensitivity survey from a randomly selected sample of about 8,200 persons living in the capital town of Port Louis and in 13 villages. Preliminary results confirmed previous findings that the frequencies of infection are higher in the capital than in the villages, with some indication that the frequency of infection increases with the size of villages. Preliminary findings showed that the pattern of tuberculin sensitivity in Port Louis and in the village populations is essentially the same : the prevalence of tuberculous infection increases with age, especially during adolescence, and is consistently higher in males.

16. It is expected that further assistance will be given in 1957 by World Health Organization in the form of specialised staff and equipment. The next step in the development of a tuberculosis control programme will be a comprehensive survey with a direct assessment of infectious cases in the population, by means of X-Ray and sputum examinations and there-after a case-finding campaign starting among the highly infected population of the capital, based on the Chest Clinic due to be constructed. In this connection, plans are being made for the building of the first Chest Clinic in Port Louis from a donation of the Board of Trustees of the Edgar Laurent Tuberculosis Fund.

17. A problem which has received a solution under the General Development Programme is that of improved water supplies, one of the basic requirements of public health anywhere. By the end of 1958, the whole of Mauritius will be supplied with filtered and chlorinated water and in addition, approval has been given to a proposal for the fluoridation of water. To start with, a pilot scheme will be operated. Fluorine will be added to the extent of 0.6 p.p.m. to one of the supplies delivering 5,000,000 gallons of water daily and the effects on the dependent population will be closely watched.

18. The year under review was favourable in regard to the incidence of infectious diseases. The only epidemic manifestation was a small outbreak of typhoid fever in the early weeks of the year in the District of Grand Port, which was quickly brought under control.

19. No cases of quarantinable diseases have occurred for a considerable time, but, as pointed out in previous years reports the frequency and speed of international traffic necessitate the maintenance of a well-organised port and airport health service to watch at the gates of the island. Malaria having now been mastered, and *Aedes aegypti* to all evidence completely eradicated, the quarantine service maintains constant vigilance to ensure that are not re-introduced these insects or new inséct vectors imported.

20. The notification of 31 paralytic cases of poliomyelitis during the twelve months of the year came as a reminder that this disease which has caused so much damage since 1945 is an everpresent danger. Thanks to the assistance of Dr. J.H.S. Gear of the Poliomyelitis Research Foundation of Johannesburg, to whom we are all greately indebted, a survey of the immunity status of the island was carried out and the results obtained confirmed that children aged between 1 and 5 years are those most susceptible to the disease. Consideration is being given to the possibility of carrying out an island-wide polio vaccination campaign to protect children in the most vulnerable age groups.

21. The main duties of the School Health Service which looks after about 89,000 school children are to examine new entrants and leavers, children previously found defective and special cases referred by the teachers. The closest cooperation now exists between the staff of the School Health Service, the teaching Staff and the parents of school children, with the pleasing result that the state of cleanliness of the pupils has appreciably improved. The maximum attention possible with the present limited staff continues to be paid to the personal hygiene and nutrition of the school child and the environment of the schools. In particular, it is not yet possible to give to individual pupils all the attention one would wish. A school travelling dispensary administers minor treatments in rural areas. All primary school children receive a daily ration of sugared skimmed milk flavoured with cocoa; cases recommended by a Medical Officer get an increased ration of milk and/or additional nutrients such as yeast, Vitamin A plus Vitamin D Capsules and iron.

22. The Dental Service concentrated on the policy of directing most of its effort to work on school children and whenever possible, provided this was not detrimental to the School Health Service, preventive dentistry was offered to a number of expectant and nursing mothers. In addition, one of the Mobile Clinics gave dental attention on Saturdays, when the schools are closed; to the chronic sick at the Mental Hospital and at the Princess Margaret Orthopaedic Centre. A second Mobile Dental Clinic was put on the road early in 1956.

23. Alcoholism remains a major aetiological factor in the causation of mental diseases in males. Out of the 516 male patients admitted at the Mental Hospital during the year, 88 were suffering from alcoholic psychoses and in 48 cases alcohol was a contributing factor to mental derangement. Attention was drawn in last year's report to the increase in the number of gandia (cannabis) addicts coming under the care of the psychiatrists. Fifteen cases were registered among the admissions to the Mental Hospital in 1956, as compared to 14 in 1955 and 3 in 1954.

24. Expansion of the Maternal and Child Health Service has continued despite staff difficulties. More assistance was given through the various static centres, the mobile units, the hospitals and the domiciliary midwifery service. Three new static centres were opened in the rural areas at Surinam, Bambous and l'Escalier respectively. All the personnel engaged on maternal and child health provided a vital, but necessarily unpublicised, contribution in the control of venereal diseases.

25. On the subject of venereal diseases, it is gratifying to publish the following figures relating to the treatment of cases of gonorrhoea in all the hospitals of the Colony:—

Years	*New Cases*		*Total cases*
	M	*F*	
1951	49	1	50
1952	20	6	26
1953	13	1	14
1954	16	1	17
1955	9	4	13
1956	11	1	12

26. The Director of Medical Services is still acting as Registrar of the Blind. The total number of persons appearing on the register up to 1956, was 57, distributed as follows:—

Age Group Years ...	1–4	5–14	15–24	25–44	45–64	65–74	*Total*
Female	1	—	3	5	21	3	33
Male	—	2	2	11	9	—	24
TOTAL ...	1	2	5	16	30	3	57

It appears from the above figures that the incidence of blindness in Mauritius is one of the lowest in the World, the rate beiug 10.02 per 100,000 of the population, calculated on the mid-year population which was 568,886.

27. The Welfare of the Blind and the Prevention of Blindness Society, which is financially assisted by the Government and of which the Director of Medical Services is a member, is building a residential training centre for the blind at Beau Bassin. It is hoped that this fine building will be completed during the second half of 1957.

28. The survey of deaf and dumb children started on the initiative of the Health Department continues and at the end of the year 55 names appeared in the register.

29. *Finance.*—The revenue of the Government for the financial year 1955-56 was Rs. 143,016,922, of which Rs. 138,572 were received through the Medical and Health Department. The total expenditure on the Medical and Health Services was Rs. 11,023,254. This represents a sum of Rs. 19.69 per head of the estimated population at the 31st December, 1955.

30. *Legislation.*—The following measures were finalised and became law during the year under review :—

(a) The Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance 1956 (No.18 of 1956) amending Section 193 of the Public Health Ordinance (Cap. 277) respecting the fees payable for permits to sell meat in public markets;

(b) The Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Ordinance 1956—to amend the Medical Practitioners Ordinance by making provision for the registration of Medical Practitioners sent by the World Health Organization to this Colony with a view to assisting the Public Health Department in connection with some of its development schemes.

(c) The Dangerous Drugs Ordinance1950 (Application) Proclamation 1956 (No. 8 of 1956) extending the application of Part IV of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance 1950 to certain drugs;

(d) The Dangerous Drugs Ordinance 1950 (Application) (No. 2) Proclamation 1956 (No. 24 of 1956), extending the application of Part IV of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance 1950 to certain drugs ;

(e) Government Notice No. 29, being Regulations made under sections 155 and 193 of the Public Health Ordinance (Cap. 277) to fix the charges to be levied at hospitals for X-Ray examinations and treatment by X-Ray and Radium Therapy ;

(f) Government Notice No. 41, being Rules made under Section 6 of the Quarantine Ordinance 1953; for setting out the fees payable to the Quarantine Authority in respect of quarantine services ;

(g) Government Notice No. 48, being Regulations made under item (*a*) of paragraph I of Part VI of Section 193 of the Public Health Ordinance (Cap 277), fixing the tariff for the re-opening of a vault and digging of a grave ;

(h) Goverment Notice No. 49, being Regulations made under item (*a*) of paragaaph (1) of Part VI of Section 193 of the Public Healih Ordinance (Cap. *277*) fixing the charges for night soil service performed on private premises in the towns of Curepipe and in the village of Phoenix.

(i) Government Notice No. 58, being Regulations made under paragraph (5) of Part V of Section 193 of the Public Health Ordinance (Cap. 277), fixing the rates to be charged for the monthly hire of stalls or spaces in public markets.

(j) Government Notice No. 59, being Regulations made under paragraph (15) of Part V of Section 193 of the Public Health Ordinance (Cap. 277), fixing the annual fee to be paid for a permit to sell meat.

(k) Government Notice No. 60, cited as the Public Health (slaughter-houses) (Amendment) Regulations 1956, fixing the tariff of fees or charges to be levied for the killing and preparation for sale of slaughtered animals.

(l) Government Notice No. 77, being Regulations made under Section 4 of the Quarantine Ordinance 1953, amending Regulations 2 and 4 of the principal Ordinance.

(m) General Notice No. 980, made under Section 161 of the Public Health Ordinance (Cap. 277), to select and appoint a portion of land to be used as a public cemetery at Bambous.

31. The suicide mortality rate for the year under review was 6·68 per 100,000 of the population. The rate in respect of each of the ten years preceding 1956 is given below :—

Year	*Rate per 100,000 population*
1946	7·31
1947	11·56
1948	7·92
1949	8·87
1950	6·45
1951	7·23
1952	5·38
1953	5·22
1954	6·59
1955	9·10

32. Visitors from overseas included :—

Mr J. Hamon, Research Entomologist, Ministère de la France d'Outre mer, Paris.

Mr. Jean Dupoirieux, Tuberculosis Specialist, Reunion.

Miss Lyle Creelman, Chief of the Nursing Section, World Health Organization, Geneva.

Dr Kenneth Martin, World Health Organization Representative, East African area.

Miss D. Rittner, Liaison Officer for Mauritian Students.

Mr Neale B. S. Hewett, U.N.I.C.E.F. representative, East African area.

Mr W. H. Chinn, Social Welfare Adviser to the Secretary of State.

It is pleasant to report that Mauritius continues to attract distinguished visitors from abroad, who come to advise on or study our health problems, and that its health problems and archievements are becoming better known over the world than they were a few years ago.

33. Voluntary workers have extended help in many ways to the Health Department and tribute is paid to the many private citizens whose contribution has been valuable. The work of the following societies and organizations is gratefully acknowledged :—

The Maternity and Child Welfare Society

The Mauritius Branch of the British Red Cross Society

The Tuberculosis Society

The St. John Ambulance Association

The Stretcher Bearers Association

The Friends of Moulin a Poudre

The Welfare of the Blind and the Prevention of Blindness Society.

PART II

Functions and Organisation of Department

34. The functions of the Medical and Health Department are :—

(a) To investigate the influence of Social, environ mental and domestic factors on the incidence of human disease and disability ;

(b) To plan and carry out measures for the promotion of health ;

(c) To institute and maintain measures for the prevention of diseases ;

(d) To provide a quarantine service to prevent the introduction of infectious disease by sea or air ;

(e) To provide facilities for treatment of disease, including mental disease, by maintenance of hospital and dispensary services ;

(f) To make provision for the rehabilitation of the disabled ;

(g) To control the practice of medicine, dentistry and pharmacy ;

(h) To provide facilities for the training of nurses, midwives and sanitarv officers ;

(i) To advise local authorities regarding their health services and to inspect those services ;

(j) To prepare and publish reports and statistical or other information relating to health.

Administration

Staff

35. The activities of the Department are co-ordinated by the Director of Medical Services assisted by two Deputies. The official establishment staffing and operating the preventive, curative and investigative services consists of :—

3 Medical Superintendents
8 Specialists (1 vacant)
2 Part-time specialists
2 Pathologists (1 vacant)
2 Senior Medical Officers of Health
2 Medical Officers of Health (2 vacant)
44 Medical Officers (14 vacant)
1 Woman Medical Officer
3 Schools Medical Officers (2 vacant)
5 Part-time Medical Officers i/c Mobile Dispensaries (1 vacant)
3 Temporary Medical Officers
1 Assistant Orthopædic Surgeon
2 Assistant Radiologists (1 vacant)
2 Assistant Tuberculosis Officers (1 vacant)
2 Assistant Anæthetists (1 vacant)
4 Dental Surgeons
2 Chemists (1 vacant)
2 Pharmacists
1 Rehabilitation Officer
1 Principal Matron
4 Matrons
1 Superintendent of Midwives
2 Physiotherapists
1 Assistant Superintendent of Midwives
1 Assistant Matron
2 Occupational Therapists (1 vacant)
19 Laboratory Assistants (1 vacant)
38 Senior Dressers and Nurses (4 vacant)
434 Dressers and Nurses (87 vacant)
69 Midwives (6 vacant)
93 Hospital Attendants, Sisters of Mercy, Assistant Nurses, District Visitors, Village Health Workers, Radiographers (12 vacant)
5 Senior Sanitary Inspectors
1 Port Health Inspector
1 Officer i/c Harbour Disinfecting Station
62 Sanitary Inspectors, Assistant Inspectors and Market Inspectors (3 vacant)

2 Officers i/c Orthopædic Workshop and Attendant
1 Steward Quarantine Station
1 Transport Officer
2 Storekeepers
39 Clerks and Assistant Clerks
9 Typist Stenographers
19 Secretaries (3 vacant)
1 Registrar of Health Statistics, 1 Compiler.

Malaria Organisation

1 Medical Officer of Health
1 Entomologist
1 Malaria Survey Officer
1 Field Officer and 2 Assistant Field Officers
1 Senior Malaria Inspector
3 Malaria Inspectors Grade I and II
1 Laboratory Assistant
6 Junior Laboratory Assistants.
1,998 others, including storekeepers, headmen, drivers, field workers, labourers, watchmen etc.

Personnel

36. The medical establishment was increased by 11 Medical Officers, 3 Specialists, 1 Assistant Radiologist, 1 Assistant Anaesthetist, 1 Assistant Tuberculosis Officer, 1 Part-time Medical Officer, but 1 Specialist retired, 2 Deputy Directors went on final leave prior to retirement on reaching the agelimit and 1 Medical Officer died. 10 Medical Officers were on leave in the United Kingdom, of whom one was studying for the Fellowship of the Faculty of Anaesthetists which he obtained during the year, one for the Diploma in Medical Radiology (Diagnosis) which he also obtained, two for the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of London, two for the Diploma in Public Health, one for the Diploma in Clinical Pathology and one for the Diploma in Psychological Medicine. After sitting for the D.P.M. Examination, the last named officer will follow a course on electro-encephalography.

37. One Health Inspector completed a course on Health Education which he was taking under a fellowship granted by World Health Organization.

38. One member of the Radiology Division followed a course on maintenance of electro-medical equipment.

39. Two Mauritian girls were training at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital with a view to becoming State Registered Nurses. One male nurse was following a course on mental nursing. In Mauritius, 37 nurses and 2 health inspectors qualified during the year and there were 221 nursing students, 15 pupil midwives, 5 health cadets and 3 student radiographers in training.

TRAINING OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH STAFF

40. Conditions and qualifications required are as follows :—

(a) No one may practise medicine and surgery in Mauritius unless he is the holder of either a qualification which renders him eligible for registration in the United Kingdom or a state degree in medicine delivered by any of the Faculties of France ;

(b) Persons authorised to practise as pharmacists in the Colony are those possessing diplomas or certificates entitling them to practise as Pharmaceutical Chemists or Chemists and Druggists, or as Apothecaries in the United Kingdom, or provided with diplomas as chemists and druggists or pharmacists from foreign Universities or Colleges, and authorised by virtue of a commission issued to them by the Governor on the recommendation of the Pharmacy Board, to act as pharmacists in the Colony ; or persons who obtain a Colonial diploma of pharmacist under the provisions of the Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance, 1955, and are authorised by the Governor as aforesaid, to practise as pharmacists ;

(c) The conditions governing the practice of dentistry are indentical to those applicable to doctors : the majority of the dentists have qualified in the United Kingdom ;

(d) Nurses and midwives must be registered at the Medical and Health Department before being allowed to practise : only those trained in the United Kingdom and in Mauritius are eligible for registration ;

(e) Sanitary Inspectors trained in the United Kingdom or in Mauritius are employed by the Department and one local authority.

There are no facilities available locally for training doctors and dentists. Persons wishing to obtain the local diploma of pharmacist study under private tuition and have to pass an examination arranged by the Pharmacy Board under the Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance, 1955. The training of nursing staff has since 1948 been raised to a standard much higher than that accepted in pre-war days, and the training course has been extended to three years for the General nursing certificate with an additional year for the midwifery certificate ; examinations are set on a syllabus which is very similar to that of the United Kingdom. In the case of midwives, the training course extends over 18 months, one-third of that time being spent on the District Midwifery Service. After passing their final examination, nurses and midwives are generally employed by the Department where they acquire additional experience. A few resign to go into private practice or join the staff on sugar estate hospitals. Sanitary Inspectors are trained during 18 months on a syllabus similar to that of the Royal Sanitary Institute. After passing the final examination, they are all employed by the Medical and Health Department.

The Pharmaceutical and Stores Section

41. Recognition must be given to the Pharmaceutical Laboratory of the Department which under the Senior Pharmacist performs work of great importance to every division of the Department. For the time being, the laboratory is temporarily accommodated at Victoria Hospital and, in view of the restricted space available, concentrates mostly on the preparation of infusion fluids and injections. Its work will be increased as soon as it can move to new accommodation which is due to become available early in 1958, and it is estimated that an important saving will be effected when the manufacturing programme can be expanded.

42. The Stores Section is in the charge of a Chief Storekeeper who is responsible for storing and distributing drugs, dressings, bedding and clothing, surgical instruments and other equipment. The Senior Pharmacist is responsible for the whole pharmaceutical service and assists the Director of Medical Services in supervising the placing of orders for drugs and special dressings.

PART III

Curative and Investigative Services

I. Hospitals

43. A summary of the distribution of public hospitals and beds is given below :—

Hospital	*Number of beds*	
Civil Hospital, Port Louis	410	
Victoria Hospital, Quatre Bornes ...	263	
Long Mountain Hospital	66	
Poudre d'Or Hospital	70	
Flacq Hospital	116	
Mahebourg Hospital	105	
Souillac Hospital	97	
Moka Hospital	80	
		1,207
Special Institutions :—		
Mental Hospital	707	
Leper Settlement	62	
Orthopædic Centre	157	
		926
Grand Total ...		2,133

44. Table I indicates the work performed at the various hospitals : 30,971 in-patients were treated during the year as compared with 29,383 in 1955, 31,048 in 1954 and 31,909 in 1953. In examining the above figures, it must not be inferred that the position is tending to become more stable. The demands on the available accommodation have since many years reached saturation point and it is not possible to do more with the staff and beds at the disposal of the Department. The public owes a debt of gratitude to the hospital staff.

45. Several buildings are in the ccurse of construction and plans are at an advanced stage of preparation for many others. However encouraging future prospects are, the possibilities of architects and builders cannot yet equal the impatience of the departmental staff nor meet the increasing demands made by the public on the medical services

46. Pending the availability of additional beds, priority continues to be given to patients requiring immediate curative treatment.

47. The revised hospital expansion programme as approved during the year includes :—

(a) A new tuberculosis hospital of 190 beds with a Chest Clinic as an adjunct to it ;

(b) A new hospital of 68 beds for the dependency of Rodrigues ;

(c) The addition of 54 beds to the Princess Magaret Orthopaedic Centre ;

(d) The addition of 160 beds to the Civil Hospital Port Louis ;

(e) Tne addition of 125 beds to the Victoria Hospital, Quatre Bornes ;

(f) The addition of 120 beds to the Mental hospital;

(g) The addition of 40 beds to each of the following hospitals : Mahebourg, Souillac, Moka, Flacq, Long Mountain and Poudre d'Or.

48. With the exception of the speciality of psychiatry centered on the self-contained Mental Hospital, the services of specialists are centralised at the two major centres of treatment which are the Civil Hospital in Port Louis and the Victoria Hospital at Quatre Bornes. The extensions in hand for the Victoria Hospital include an ophthalmic Unit of 30 beds with out-patient service and an operation department.

49. *Ambulance Service.*—The number of ambulances in use in the Medical and Health Department at the end of the year was 16. Three new ambulances were on order through the Public Works Department

50. *Radiodiagnosis.*— The total number of X-Ray examinations reached the figure of 26,424 as follows :—

(a) Gastro-intestinal cases	3,132
(b) Chest	9,571
(c) Orthopaedic	12,493
(d) Gall bladder	175
(e(Plain abdomen (*e.g.* pregnancies etc.)	618
(f) Urinary tract	225
(g) Others	210

51. *Radiotherapy.*—The number of patients accepted for radium treatment totalled 83, distributed as under :—

Carcinoma of the uterus	67
Malignant skin disease	8
Epithelioma of buccal cavity	8

Radioactive isotopes, received by air, were applied on two occasions.

52.—*(a)* OPHTHALMOLOGY. The following work was done by the two ophthalmologists :—

	Cases			*Attendances*		
	M	*F*	*Total*	*M*	*F*	*Total*
Conjunctivitis	502	414	916	618	545	1,163
Ophthaimia	8	5	13	10	6	16
Blepharitis	41	63	104	43	71	114
Choroiditis	7	10	17	13	20	33
Iridocyclitis	23	17	40	54	31	85
Inflammatory diseases	73	66	139	101	100	201
Refractive errors	634	663	1,297	735	779	1,514
Corneal ulcer	317	133	450	391	188	579
Pterygium	66	106	172	79	143	222
Strabismus	27	46	73	30	66	96
Cataract	508	671	1,179	776	1,033	1,809
Glaucoma	30	27	57	85	61	146
Hordeolum	123	101	224	135	106	241
Iritis	99	62	161	162	99	261
Keratitis	157	154	311	215	213	428
Uveal tract	35	18	53	60	23	83
Optic nerve and retina	140	97	237	216	157	373
Lacrymal duct and sac	62	148	210	74	199	273
Corneal opacity	40	25	65	71	37	108
Chalazion	36	47	83	53	71	124
Ectropion and Entropion	2	2	4	3	2	5
Foreign bodies	208	18	226	213	19	232
Internal injury of eye ball	152	58	210	196	71	267
Burns	11	—	11	11	—	11
Other diseases	677	617	1,294	798	751	1,549
TOTAL ...	3,978	3,568	7,546	5,142	4,791	9,933

(b) The operations performed were :—

Cataract	219
Iridectomy	13
Glaucoma	10
Capsulotomy	9
Evisceration and enucleation	10
Styes and chalazion	55
Lacrymal ducts	19
Ectropion	2
Intra-ocular foreign bodies	3
Injury and conjunctival flap	13
Dacryocystectomy	17
Strabismus	1
Keratotomy	10
Pterygium	11
Other operations	290
TOTAL ...	682

53. *The Orthopædic Unit.*—The following figures demonstrate the activities of the Unit :—

(a) Attendances of Patients at Doctor's Consultations :—

Attendances	2,622	9,574
Re-attendances	6,952	
Attendances of polio cases	399	9,574
Attendances of orthopædic cases ...	9,175	

(b) Distribution of attendances at :—

Orthopædic Hospital	7,921	9,574
Victoria Hospital	1,469	
Civil Hospital	139	
District Clinics	45	

(c) Operations at Orthopaedic Hospital :—

In-patientt	743	3,452
Out-patient	2,709	

(d) Attendances at Physiotherapy Department :—

In-patients	12,399	41,029
Out-patients ...	25,152	
Victoria Hospital ...	3,478	

(e) Patients wearing instruments under supervision :—

Polio cases	750	1,228
Orthopædic cases ...	478	

54. *The Orthopaedic Workshop.*—This essential complement of the orthopaedic service, provides nearly all the instruments and appliances required on the island. The output of work was, as usual, very high and of an excellent order. Over 4,800 appliances, including 1,627 pair of special boots were manufactured, and over 5,000 articles were repaired.

55. *(a)—The Mental Hospital.* The lack of accommodation, especially on the male side, remained acute. The new ward block under coustruction will provide additional space for 60 patients while the transfer of quiet and well behaved old chronic dements to infirmaries due to take place in 1957 will help ease the situation.

(b) The insane population of the Colony on the 31st December, 1956, was distributed as under :—

In Hospital	611
On probation leave	511
On leave for the New Year ...	72
In Infirmaries	101
TOTAL ...	1,295

The sex distribution of the 1,295 certified insanes was males 62·16 per cent and females 39·25 per cent.

(c) The rate of insanity per 10,000 of the population for Mauritius and the Dependencies was 22,146 for an estimated population of 584,736. This rate compares favourably with the average rate obtained in Europe. The rate of insanity per 10,000 of population in relation to each community was 35·28 for the General Population and 16‘67 for the Indo-Mauritian population.

(d) The out-patient clinic is attended by an ever-increasing number of patients, most of those coming for advice and treatment being neurotics. Cases of manic depressive insanity are treated in the out-patient department by means of E.C.T. with the result that they are able to obtain adequate treatment without having to be admitted into the Hospital.

(e) Occupational therapy contributes appreciably to the rehabilitation of the mental patient. Classes which are self-supporting are run in both the male and female sections. The proceeds of the sales of the articles made go towards buying fresh materials and contributing to the renewal and repair of tools, while a small reward is set aside for the patient. It is the tradition at the Mental Hospital to remunerate any patient who works regularly. He can spend as he chooses the money earned in that way.

56.—*(a) The Dental Service.* The dental service is operated chiefly for the benefit of school children, treatment being also afforded when possible to a number of expectant and nursing mothers. There were four dental clinics in operation: one attached to the Civil Hospital, one attached to the Victoria Hospital and two mobile. One of the Mobile Units visited at intervals the Princess Margaret Orthopaedic Centre and the Mental Hospital to give preventive dentistry to long-stay patients.

(b) The following is a summary of the work performed :—

(i) Victoria Hospital Clinic :—

In the course of 370 sessions, dental treatment was given to 8,131 patients and the attendances were as follows : —

School children (proper)	5,120
School children (casuals)	1,527
Expectant and nursing mothers	1,203
Hospital cases (in patients)	132
Hospital cases (T.B. patients)	9
Hospital cases (out-patients)	140

The nature of dental treatment was :—

Fillings inserted in permanent teeth ...	2,412
Permanent teeth extracted (school children)	290
Permanent teeth extracted (adults)	540
Deciduous teeth extracted	3,940
Surgical operations on jaws	139
Treatment of parodontal disease	927
Fracture of jaws	6

(ii) Civil Hospital Clinic :—

Total number of school children seen ...	3,225
Expectant mothers	83
Hospital cases (in-patients)	145
Hospital cases (out-patients)	211

The nature of treatment was :—

Extractions	2,818
Dressings	581
Fillings	527
Scalings	18
Fracture of jaws ...	7

(iii) Mobile Unit No. 1.—

Schools. The schools visited by Mobile Dental Clinic No. 1 were : Rivière des Creoles Government School, Quartier Militaire R.C.A. School, Vieux Grand Port R.C.A. School, Goodlands Government School, Plaine Magnien R.C.A. School, Rivière des Anguilles Government School, Verdun C.E.A. School, Surinam C.E.A. School, Mahebourg R.C.A. School, Ste. Cecile (Bambous Virieux) R.C.A. School.

353 pupils from Standard VI received dental treatment. 303 teeth were extracted and 740 were filled. 150 scalings were done. Besides, 1,605 pupils from classes other than Standard VI were treated, the number of teeth extracted being 1,760 and the number filled 30.

Instruction in oral hygiene was given to Standard VI pupils and to the students of the teachers' Training College.

Mental Hospital :—A fairly large number of patients at the Mental Hospital had to have all their teeth extracted as they were suffering from advanced pyorrhoea or oral sepsis. The total number of teeth extracted were 755. 6 cases of gingivitis were treated by scaling and chromic acid. In those patients who were co-operative enough to allow drilling; 10 fillings were done.

Orthopaedic Centre :—In and out-patients had 430 teeth extracted and 14 filled. 2 dental cysts were enucleated.

(iv) Mobile Unit No. 2 :—

This unit started operating on the 21st May in the Nothern Districts and the following schools were dealt with : Grand Gaube R.C.A.Flacq Government, Petit Raffray R.C.A., Triolet South Government and Arsenal Government.

781 permanent teeth were extracted

689 permanent teeth were filled

300 temporary teeth were extracted

145 temporary teeth were filled

280 scaling and polishing were done

57. *Statisiics of morbidity and mortality* :—The statistics of morbidity and mortality in respect of hospitals and dispensaries are given in Table II. The statistical figures concerning the mobile dispensaries are shown separately in this Table, figures for attendances being the only ones given, since the introductions of a card system has been found unworkable for the mobile units, and there is consequently a considerable amount of uncertainty as regards new cases and re-attendances.

The main causes of morbidity are enumerated in Table III and Table IV gives figures for hospital statistics by groups of diseases corresponding to the 1948 International Classification.

II. Out-Patients

58. No modern health organisation can operate without an out-patient and dispensary service. The main functions of this service are :—

(a) Screening of patients applying for admission to hospitals to avoid unsuitable filling of scarce and expensive beds;

(b) Diagnosis and treatment of simple cases and provision of first-aid;

(c) Follow-up of patients discharged from hospitals; and

(d) Health education.

59. All the hospitals have out-patient clinics which are supplemented by 37 static dispensaries scattered all over the island and by a mobile service.In addition there is a mobile dispensary service composed of four units which visit 64 villages and hamlets where it would be uneconomical to have permanent buildings and staff. These units made 974 trips and attended to 81,822 patients. The total attendances at the static dispensaries and at the out-patient departments attached to the hospitals numbered 501,072. The figures for the five immediately preceding years were :—

1955	...	457,114
1954	...	402,136
1953	...	399,899
1952	...	379,476
1951	...	362,496

60. Early in the year, a new Health Centre at Rose Hill, the first to be built in the Colony, was occupied. It is an up-to-date building combining curative and preventive services, and the waiting hall which is spacious can be used for talks, demonstration and exhibitions. The Service was further strengthened by the opening of a new dispensary at Piton in the North.

61. In the revised Capital Expenditure Programme, provision is made for the construction of another Health Centre at Curepipe and of two new dispensaries, and also for the replacement of seventeen dispensaries which will be small rural health centres in which patients will receive treatment and from which adviee on rural sanitation will be obtained and health education disseminated. An expansion of the mobile dispensary service is contemplated.

III. The Laboratory Service

62. As in the previous years, the entire staff of the Central Laboratory and its branches was occupied in carrying out routine examinations. A total of 118,118 specimens were examined distributed as follows :—

Central Laboratory	Clinical Section ...	73,700
	Chemical Section ...	5,460
Civil Hospital		22,280
Victoria Hospital		16,678

This increased demand on the laboratories had been anticipated as a sequence to the general expansion and modernisation of the Medical Services.

63. Since the introduction of antibiotic sensitivity tests a few years ago, the emergence of resistant strains of staphylococci to penicillin has been frequently reported. Now that the range of antibiotics available for therapy is extending steadily and with their increasing use, often in combination, the emergence of micro-organisms showing multiple resistance must be expected to occur with greater frequency. It was considered desirable therefore to place the sale of all antibiotics under more rigid control and this was one of the objects of the new Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance which came into force in the last days of the year 1955.

64. During 1956, two cases of R^h negative pregnant women with R^h antibody in their sera were discovered. They were both treated by Cæsarean section and exchange transfusion for the babies.

65. In April, the Senior Pathologist attended the World Health Organization Seminar on the laboratory aspects of virus and rickettsial diseases held in Madrid.

66. The vacant post of Pathologist was filled and the officer selected was undergoing special training at this Government's expense at the Post-graduate Medical School in London.

67. A summary of the work performed by the Laboratory Service is given as an Appendix.

IV. Blood Transfusion Service

68. The Blood Transfusion Service is entirely voluntary and continued to be run with the assistance of the St. John Ambulance Association, the Stretcher Bearers' Association and the Mauritius Branch of the Red Cross Society. The policy of obtaining blood required for a transfusion from a relative or friend of the patient continued to be implemented, but when this was not possible and in cases of emergency, donors were supplied by the Blood Transfusion Service. I wish to express our gratitude to the many voluntary donors who have given their constant support to this vital service.

PART IV

Health Services

I. Vital Statistics

69. The following is a summary of vital statistics for the year 1956 :—

Area of Mauritius : 720 square miles.

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Estimated population on the 31st December, 1956	293,286	285,837	579,123
Estimated mid-year population	—	—	568,886
Density per square mile : 804			
Marriages : 3,080			
Marriage rate per 1,000 population : 10·8			
Live Births	12,693	12,217	24,910
Live births per 1,000 population : 43·8			
Still births : 1,789...			
Still birth rate per 100 live births : 7·2			
Deaths	3,556	3,183	6,739
Crude death rate per 1,000 population : 11·8			
Maternal deaths 57			
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 births (live and still) : 2·13			
Infant mortality (under 1 year of age)	920	724	1,644
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births : 66·0			
Deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis	56	76	132
Death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis per 1,000 population : 0·25			
Deaths from infective and parasitic diseases ...	125	229	354
Death rate from infective and parasitic diseases per 1,000 population : 0·6			
Deaths from respiratory diseases	279	494	773
Death rate from respiratory diseases per 1,000 population : 1·4			
Deaths from diseases of the digestive system...	398	467	865
Death rate from diseases of the digestive system per 1,000 population : 1·5			
Deaths from malaria and malarial cachexia ...	—	—	—

70. An analysis of the percentage contribution to the total number of deaths occurring in 1956 made by the more important groups of diseases is shcwn below, together with corresponding figures for the five previous years :—

Groups	*Percentage of total number of deaths*					
	1951	*1952*	*1953*	*1954*	*1955*	*1956*
Infective and parasitic diseases	11·9	9·6	11·8	7·8	4·38	5·25
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs	6·7	6·9	6·0	6·6	6·44	6·13
Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	6 0	6·1	6·1	5·5	5·53	5·90
Disease of the circulatory system ...	5·4	5·9	6·7	6·5	8·08	7·39
Diseases of the respiratory system ...	14·8	15·5	15 9	14·3	10·75	11·47
Disease of the digestive system	18·5	17·5	15·3	20·6	19·07	12·83
Certain diseases of early infancy	11·0	11·4	9·7	8·0	9·32	12·86

Population

71. An excess of 18,171 in the number of births as compared with the number of deaths has caused an increase of population which has been such a marked feature in recent years. The estimated population as at the 31st December was 579,123 and the density of population was 804 per square mile for the whole island. The rate of natural increase for the last five years has been 30·09 per thousand as compared with 12·58 per thousand for the 10 year period preceding 1950. The graph at Figure I shows the population trend for the period 1935–56 whilst the graph at Figure II indicates the trend of crude birth and death rates for the period 1945–56. Table V shows the total births and deaths for the period 1940–56.

Births

72. The number of live births during the year was 24,910, an increase of 1,940 on the number for 1955 and an increase of 3,525 over the yearly average number of births for the ten years preceding 1956. Still births, which are not included as either births or deaths, numbered 1,789, giving a rate of 7·2 per hundred live births as compared with 1,459 still births in 1955 and a rate of 6·4.

Deaths

73. Deaths registered in Mauritius numbered 6,739 corresponding to a rate of 11·8 per 1,000 of the population. The average death rate for the period 1947–56 was 15·9. Table VI shows the number of deaths from the principal causes for the ten-year period 1947–56.

74. The number of deaths ascribed to the puerperal state was 57, giving a rate of 2.13 per thousand births (including still births) as compared with 3·51 in 1950 and 1·47 in 1955.

Infant and Child Mortality

75. A most satisfactory reduction in deaths from diseases of infancy has been recorded since 1949. In 1956 the infantile mortality rate was 66·0 per 1,000 live births as compared with 67·2 in 1955, 81·1 in 1954 and 93·5 in 1953 and an average of 138·1 per 1,000 over the 10 year period 1941–50.

76. The deaths under five years of age were distributed as follows, the corresponding figures for 1954 and 1955 for total deaths being shown for comparison :—

Age	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*		
			1956	*1955*	*1954*
Under 3 months	628	464	1,092	926	1,012
3 months and under 6 months	138	110	248	251	316
6 months and under 1 year ...	154	150	304	366	450
1 year and under 2 years ...	193	209	402	590	766
2 years and under 3 years ...	122	135	257	377	633
3 years and under 4 years ...	64	79	143	177	355
4 years and under 5 years ...	41	42	83	114	204
Total	1,340	1,189	2,529	2,801	3,736

The figures were affected in 1954 by an epidemic of measles.

77. The principal causes of death in children under five years of age were in the following categories (International List of Causes of Death, 1948 Revision) :—

Group	*Under one year*	*One year and under five years*
1. Infective and parasitic diseases	62	58
3. Allergic, endocrine system, metabolic and nutritional diseases	19	85
4. Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs ...	7	37
6. Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs ...	6	8
8. Diseases of the respiratory system	221	118
9. Diseases of the digestive system	332	266
15. Certain diseases of early infancy	867	—
17. Accidents, poisoning and violence	4	43

78. The mortality rate of children in the 5–14 age-group is a good index of the sanitary conditions of a territory, and the figures are given in the following table. For purposes of comparison, the crude death rate and the infantile mortality rate are included in the table :—

Year	*Mid-year population*	*Calculated population age-group 5–14*	*Deaths age-group 5–14*	*Death rate age-group 5–14 per 1,000*	*Crude death rate per 1,000*	*Infant mortality rate per 1,000*
1948	441,822	100,691	373	3·70	23·8	186·2
1949	444,521	101,306	287	2·83	16·6	91·0
1950	464,735	105,913	213	2·01	13·9	76·3
1951	483,859	110,271	217	1·97	14·9	83·5
1952	501,469	114,284	233	2·08	14·8	80·8
1953	516.525	117,716	275	2·34	16·1	93·5
1954	530,461	120,892	392	3·24	16·0	81·1
1955	549,094	138,000	252	1·81	12·9	67·2
1956	568,886	144,868	242	1·68	11·8	66·0

79. The following table shows births, still-births, death rates, marriage rates and natural increase of the population, and gives comparative data for the last ten years :—

Year	*Births*		*Still births*		*Death and Marriage rates*			
	Births	*Rate per 1,000 population*	*No. of still births*	*Rate % total births*	*Infant mortality rate*	*Total death rate*	*Marriage rate per 1000 population*	*Natural increase of population*
1947	18,926	43·8	1,277	6·7	113·9	20·1	17·5	10,246
1948	19,239	43·1	1,316	6·9	186·2	23·8	14·7	8,521
1949	20,472	46·0	1,364	6·7	91·0	16·6	16·3	13,088
1950	23,110	49·7	1,410	6·1	76·3	13·9	13·1	16,657
1951	22,968	47·5	1,401	6·1	83·5	14·9	12·7	15,760
1952	24,120	48·0	1,575	6·5	80·8	14·8	16·3	16,673
1953	23,896	46·3	1,568	6·6	93·5	16·1	13·4	15,597
1954	21,926	41·3	1,358	6·2	81·1	16·0	11·7	13,464
1955	22,970	41·8	1,459	6·4	67·2	12·9	10·2	15,882
1956	24,910	43·8	1,789	7·2	66·0	11·8	10·8	18,171

II. Public Health

A. Communicable and Infectious Diseases

Malaria and Anti-malarial measures

80. Malaria, which used to be the main scourge of Mauritius, having now been mastered, it was necessary to adapt the Insect Borne Diseases Division of the Department to new circumstances, as clearly indicated in the following tables :—

Year	*Cases of malaria treated in hospitals*	*Deaths from malaria in hospitals*	*Case mortality in hospitals*
1946	2,522	106	4·20
1950	209	10	4·78
1951	98	4	4·06
1952	3	Nil	Nil
1953	Nil	Nil	Nil
1954	3	Nil	Nil
1955	1	Nil	Nil
1956	3	Nil	Nil

The deaths ascribed to the disease per 1,000 living from 1947 to 1956 were as shown hereunder: —

Year	*Deaths ascribed to malaria*	*Rate per thousand population*	*Percentage of deaths due to total deaths*
1947	1,782	4·12	20·53
1948	1,580	3·58	15·02
1949	936	2·11	12·68
1950	388	0·83	6·01
1951	285	0·59	3·95
1952	188	0·37	2·52
1953	61	0·12	0·73
1954	27	0·05	0·32
1955	3	0·01	0·04
1956	Nil	Nil	Nil

81. The year under review can therefore be described as one of routine and reduction. The personnel employed in the engineering branch of the Malaria Organization was appreciably reduced on the 1st July, 1956, and all the heavy equipment was transferred to the Public Works Department on the same date.

82. The incidence of malaria is now extremely low, but there is still slight transmission for which *Anopheles Gambiae* is the obvious suspect, a suspect which to all evidence must be a poor vector in local surroundings. Difficulty has been experienced in breeding *A. Gambiae* at the altitude of Curepipe where the entomological laboratory is situated ; so a building has been taken over on the coast at Port Louis to be used as an insectarium. When suitable colonies have been raised, further attempts will be made to carry out experimental infection of that mosquito, and additional research will be effected on its resistance to chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticides.

83. Since *A. Gambiae* does not rest in houses after feeding, two swing fog machines have been purchased to attack the outside resting places. When a positive blood smear is found, the plan of attack is, in addition to residual spraying of the habitation:—

(a) to fog the likely outdoor resting site;

(b) to treat the actual carrier with chloroquine; and

(c) to give prophylactic proguanil to the other members of the household.

84. The Malaria Control Organization is at present made up of four branches:—

(*a*) Maintenance of engineering works.

(*b*) Malaria Survey.

(*c*) Residual spraying.

(*d*) Entomological.

(a) Maintenance of engineering works—This Branch now only undertakes maintenance of existing major works scattered throughout the island. There is no reason why local authorities should not at some time in the future assume responsibility for the anti-malaria drains in their areas.

(b) Malaria Survey.—This Unit worked at full pressure. As usual, it concentrated first and foremost on an infant survey, since positive smears in this category can be taken as evidence of transmission. In addition it carried out an island-wide survey and took blood films from special cases, i.e., from adults who complain of fever to the infant survey teams and from cases suspected by private medical practitioners, hospital and dispensary Medical Officers as being malaria.

During the year, 53,842 blood smears, obtained from the following sources, were examined:—

Infant survey	23,506	(18 Positives ...	11 S.T, 7 B.T.)
Special cases	2,393	(5 do ...	4 S.T, 1 B.T.)
Reported by doctors	225	(30 do ...	6 S.T, 23 B.T, 1 mixed)
Special surveys	15,738	(16 do ...	5 S.T, 10 B.T, 1 Q.T.)
Contacts	466	(21 do ...	5 S.T, 16 B.T,)
Island Survey	8,000	(18 do ...	9 S.T, 4 B.T, 4 Q.T, 1 mixed)
Repeats	16	(Nil)	
	50,344	(108 Positives	40 S.T, 61 B.T, 5 Q.T, 2 mixed.
Military personnel arriving in the Colony	2,549	(19 Positives ...	18 S.T, 1 Q.T.)
Investigations	127	(36 do ...	17 S.T, 17 B.T, 1 Q.T, 1 mixed)
Follow up	822	(27 do ...	11 S.T, 15 B.T, 1 Q.T.
TOTAL ...	53,842		

During April and May, an island-wide survey was carried out 8,000 blood smears being taken from the population, as was done in 1954. The results for both surveys were :—

1954=38 Positives (20 S.T, 6 B.T, 12 Q,T,)

1956=18 Positives (9 S.T, 4 B.T, 4 Q.T, 1 mixed).

In the course of special surveys, 15,738 smears were taken and sixteen were returned positives. These surveys were held in the following districts :—

District	*No. of smears*	*No. positive*
Moka	424	Nil
Savane	1,511	2
Port Louis	1,728	1
Pamplemousses	1,677	1
Plaines Wilhems	862	Nil
Flacq	1,166	Nil
Rivière du Rempart ..	1,743	Nil
Grand Port	4,002	9
Black River	2,625	3

(c) Residual Spraying.—The island is divided into two districts to facilitate administration. District "A" has its headquarters in Port Louis and is responsible for the following administrative districts : Port Louis, Pamplemousses, Riviere du Rempart, Black River and Lower Plaines Wilhems. The "B" District headquarters are at Forest Side and ontrol Flacq, Savane, Grand P ort and Upper Plaines Wilhems.

During the year, 219,134 rooms were treated with one application of residual spray and 3,719 in the Mon Desert S.E. area received two applications.

DDT 50 per cent wettable powder was the insecticide most commonly used and was applied at the rate of approximately 170 mgm of the parapara isomer per square foot. In the Black River District and Mon Desert area the insecticide used was Dieldrin at the rate of 45 mgm per square foot. For better class houses DDT Technical in Kerosene or DDT Emulsion is used.

Hospitals, Dispensaries, Orphanages outside the spraying area were also treated during the year.

The population in the residual spraying area is approximately 200,000 and the cost of spraying per capita is about R. 1.50. The cost per room treated is R. 1.36. On breaking down the costing it is found that the cost per room for insecticide is 39 cents, Labour 43 cents. Transport 13 cents, Supervision of labour etc., 38 cents. Overalls, Depreciation of sprayers etc., 4 cents.

Residual spraying, as at present carried out, will have to continue until answers are received on the resistance to the chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticides and on the resting habits of *A. gambiae* during the gonotrophic cycle.

(a) Entomological. During the year, frequent observations were made to compare the frequency of breeding sites for A. gambiæ which was found in practically all classes of habitats as classified by Russell, with the exception of tree holes and special plant associations.

The findings were as under :—

		%
Class I	Permanent or semi-permanent standing fresh water ...	34·4
Class II	Transient fresh water ground pools	31·2
Class III	Permanent or semi-permanent running fresh water	7·1
Class IV	Container habitats	17·0
Class V	Brackish water	10·3
	TOTAL ...	100·

Near the coast, typical *A. Gambiae.* breeds in brackish water containing up to 16.85 grammes NaCl per litre.

An interesting feature of the year's work is constituted by the preliminary observations of Mr. Mamet, the newly appointed entomologist, on the nocturnal activity of *A. gambiae.* They show that this species though normally starting feeding as early as between 19 and 20 hours, reaches its maximum activity between 23 hours and 3 hours, with peaks between 23 and 24 hours and between 2 and 3 hours.

Pending further observations, the table appearing hereunder shows the results so far obtained :

Night catches : 32
Host : man

Time hours	*Number of female gambiae captured*
18—19	3
19—20	16
20—21	34
21—22	63
22—23	56
23—24	109
24— 1	86
1— 2	95
2— 3	103
3— 4	60
4— 5	75
5 6	15

The above results suggest that *A. gambiae* has lost its crepuscular habit previously reported by Halcrow (1954) and that the nocturnal activity of the Mauritian *gambiae* seems to match fairly well with that of the African *gambiae* which reaches the peak of its cycle late into the night i.e., between 1 and 4 hours, declining rapidly one or two hours before dawn.

85. Extensive surveys again failed to reveal any *Anopheles funestus* (once the main vector of malaria in Mauritius) and *Aedes aegypti,* and it is thus confirmed that they have been completely eradicated. Special search for *Aedes vinsoni* Mattingly also gave negative results and this species may well have disappeared.

86. The Malaria Advisory Board, of which the Director of Medical Services is the Chairman, met on 33 occasions.

Filariasis

87. 18 cases were treated in hospitals and 31 in dispensaries.

Enteric Fever

88. The cases of this disease notified in the year 1956 numbered 149 equivalent to an incidence rate of 0·26 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 66 cases notified in 1955, equivalent to an incidence rate of 0·12 per 1,000 of the population. These 149 cases resulted in 8 deaths, giving a case mortality of 5·37 as compared with 11 and 16·6 per cent for the previous year.

89. The incidence of this disease per 1,000 of the population and the case mortality for the past five years were :—

Year	*No. of cases notified*	*Rate per 1,000 of the population*	*Case mortality %*
1951	326	0·67	15·95
1952	252	0·502	7·54
1953	108	0·21	10·18
1954	88	0·16	11·36
1955	66	0·12	16·66

90. Very early in the year, a small epidemic of typhoid fever, which was quickly brought under control, broke out in part of the district of Grand Port in the south of the island. It was responsible for the notification of fifty cases. The measures taken to deal with it included the reinforcement of medical and health personnel in the district, a special health education and sanitation campaign, the spraying with residual insecticides of 12,751 rooms, mass inoculation with T.A.B. vaccine which reached over 24,000 individuals and the immediate isolation in hospital of every suspected case.

Diphtheria

91. The cases of this disease notified in the year numbered 89 equivalent to an incidence rate of 0·15 per 1,000 of the population. The 89 cases resulted in 11 deaths, giving a case mortality of 12·36 per cent.

The following figures indicate the number of cases of diphtheria notified, the incidence rate and the case mortality for the previous five year :—

Year	*No. of cases notified*	*Incidence rate per 1,000 population*	*Case mortality per 100*
1951 ...	88	0·18	19·31
1952 ...	73	0·145	13·70
1953 ...	62	0·12	6·45
1954 ...	69	0·13	7·24
1955 ...	67	0·12	19·40

Erysipelas

92. 4 cases were notified during the year.

Small-pox

93. No case has occurred during the past 44 years. A total of 15,367 vaccinations were performed of which 15,129 were successful. 62 per cent of the children born were vaccinated by Medical Officers of the Heath Department.

Tuberculosis

94. The work and activities of the Tuberculosis Division were carried out on lines similar to those of the previous years.

The World Health Organization sent a team in the middle of the year to do a Tuberculin Survey of different sections of the population. This work was completed by November and another team will be coming in 1957 to supplement the survey done.

95.—(*a*) *B. C. G. Vaccination* :—During the year, schools in all the districts of the Island were visited, and the work of testing, retesting and vaccination of school children was carried out as in the year before.

(*b*) The students joining the Teacher's Training College were tuberculin tested and vaccinated where necessary.

(*c*) In the hospitals, all new nursing students were tested and B.C.G. vaccination done.

(*d*) The testing of contacts of tuberculous cases was continued a the Civil and the Orthopædic Hospitals as in the previous years. New born babies of tuberculous parents were vaccinated with B.C.G. without testing if they were below one month old.

(*e*) The Tuberculin tests were with the Heaf Multiple Puncture instrument using a P.P.D. solution specially prepared for this technique. The Tuberculin test by the Heaf Method was carried out on everyone over the age of 1 year. We are still using the Tuberculin Jelly test on children of below 1 year. The World Health Organisation Team used a Danish P.P.D. solution of 5 units for intradermal testing in their survey. A small comparative study showed that the Heaf's Multiple Puncture method was as reliable as the intradermal test with 5 units P.P.D.

(*f*) Our supply of vaccine was obtained from the Pasteur Institute, Paris, as Lyophilised Freeze Dried Vaccine. This is reconstituted just before use and the dose injected in 1956 is now 0·3 mg. in $\frac{1}{10}$ c.c. By using this stronger dose, we have not found any untoward complications. The size and type of local ulcers were not different from those when 0·1 mg was injected.

(*g*) The nursing staff of the B.C.G. Campaign visited all schools regularly after vaccination to apply dry dressings on the ulcers. 1,001 visits were thus made and 33,551 dressings applied.

(*h*) During 1956 the number of persons who had tuberculin tests was 22,432 and 13,498 vaccinations with B.C.G. were done.

96. The figures below show the B. C. G. work done in 1956:—

	Routine				
	Children to School-leavers	*Adults*	*Contacts*	*New-born to 1st year*	*Total*
Tests	17,727	692	1,185	137	19,741
Re-tests	6,514	24	31	—	6,569
Vaccinations ...	11,300	74	449	127	11,950

97. The following table gives an analysis of the tuberculin sensitivity amongst the persons tested in 1956:—

ANALYSIS OF 17,201 TESTS ACCORDING TO AGE-GROUPS

Age	*Total*	*Positive*	*Negative*	*% of positive*
0— 1 ...	137	20	117	14·6
2— 4 ...	294	59	235	20·06
5— 9 ...	10,903	2,184	8,719	20·03
10—14 ...	4,757	1,825	2,932	38·3
15—19 ...	360	222	138	61·6
20—24 ...	167	125	42	74·9
25—29 ...	153	131	22	85·6
30—34 ...	124	111	13	89·5
35—39 ...	109	95	14	87·2
40+ ...	197	170	27	86·3
TOTAL ..	17,201	4,942	12,259	—

98. The total number on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1956 was 3,625. The total number of cases notified during the year was 424.

99. Just over 225 beds were fully occupied by tuberculous patients in the various hospitals. Out-patient clinics continued to be held regularly at Civil and Victoria Hospitals.

100. During the past ten years the death rates on account of tuberculosis have been as follows :—

Year	*Deaths per 100,000 population*
1947	39
1948	61
1949	68
1950	53
1951	49
1952	40
1953	28
1954	25
1955	24
1956	25

Leprosy

101. No new case was notified during the year under review and it is now clear that the problem of leprosy has been solved.

Poliomyelitis

102. 31 paralytic cases were notified.

The cases recorded as paralytic from 1953 to 1956 are as under :—

Year	*Total No. of cases*	*Sex distribution*		*Age incidence*							
		M	*F*	*Under 1*	*1–2*	*2–3*	*3–4*	*4–5*	*5–10*	*10–20*	*Above 20*
1953 ...	28	1	1	6	3	7	2	4	2	3	1
1954 ...	11	1	1·75	—	3	1	1	—	3	2	1
1955 ...	9	2	1	2	1	1	—	—	2	1	2
1956 ...	31	2·5	1	1	12	4	4	3	3	1	3

Venereal diseases

103. 124 admissions for syphilis and 1 death was reported from the hospitals and 12 cases of gonococcal infection were treated. From the out-patient clinics and dispensaries 412 cases of syphilis and 65 cases of genoccocal infection were notified.

Ankylostomiasis

104. The number of cases treated in hospitals and in the dispensaries amounted to 411 and 7,481 respectively.

Schistosomiasis

105. 34 cases were treated in hospitals and 346 at the dispensaries.

106. Figure III shows the proportion in percentages of diseases treated in hospital to total cases treated, according to the sections of the 1948 International Classification of Diseases, while Figure IV illustrates the proportion in percentages of certain infective and parasitic diseases treated.

B. Nutrition and Nutritional Diseases

107. The following nutritional diseases were recorded during the year :

Diseases	*In hospitals (cases)*	*At static Dispensaries (cases)*	*At mobile dispensaries (attendances)*
Beriberi	1	3	1
Pellagra	57	81	33
Seurey	1	2	4
Other deficiency states ...	293	3,934	1,539

108. The table published hereunder supplies evidence that anaemia is one of our major problems.

Year	*Treated in hospitals*	*Treated in outpatient departments and in dispensaries*	*Treated at mobile dispensaries*
1947	1,517	10,558	Not available
1948	1,392	13,957	,,
1949	1,520	19,432	,,
1950	1,666	20,523	,,
1951	3,005	19,753	14,558
1952	2,936	18,405	17,204
1953	2,934	21,150	13,507
1954	2,634	25,573	16,696
1955	2,014	29,753	11,870
1956	1,868	34,206	16,540

109. As anticipated in last year's report, the Nutrition Survey Project which was under consideration between the World Health Organization and this Government, materialised during the year. A medical haematologist arrived in August and commenced his investigations immediately. A non-medical nutritionist was due to report early in 1957 to assist in the project.

C. Food in Relation to Health and Disease

110. The relation between food and health is of the greatest importance here as elsewhere. In common with all tropical countries, the premises where articles of food are stored, prepared and sold in Mauritius, do not always comply with the best standards and a constant menace is constituted by the itinerant hawkers whose numbers are out of proportion to the population. The food inspectorate must therefore be very active and exercise constant vigilance over production and sale of food. Excluding markets and slaughter houses which are under the incessant supervision of representatives of the public health services, food premises were inspected on 9,865 occasions during the period under review.

111. Sophistication of milk is so current that this essential commodity continued to be subjected to special control. It is gratifying to point out that appreciable improvements have been conspicuous in the town areas following the establishment of a milk Control Unit in 1953. During the year under review, this Unit submitted 276 samples to the Government Chemist for analysis, out of which 157 or 57 per cent did not comply with the standards laid down by law. 403 further cases of sophistication were brought before Court by the other Health Inspectors of the Department.

112. There are six public and one private abattoirs. The public slaughter-houses administered by the Municipality of Port Louis, the Town Councils of Curepipe and of Beau Bassin—Rose Hill as well as the Government slaughter-house at Flacq are each controlled by a qualified Veterinary Surgeon. In other places supervision rests with the sanitary staff. There are 12 markets in the Colony.

113. The inspection of imported foodstuffs is carried out in a systematic way by the Port Health Inspector. As a result the items listed below were found unfit for human consumption or for delivery and were seized accordingly:—

2 Packages Flour Samples	1,000 Packets Cigarettes (mouldy)
1 Package Provisions	3 Packages Cheese
12 Cases Cigarettes (mouldy)	6 Cartons Cigarettes (mouldy)
6 Cases Confectionery	143 Bags Flour
12 Bags Flour Sweepings	84 Kilos Rice
135 Crates Onions	200 lbs Pigs' heads
6 Cases Cigarettes (mouldy)	2,080 Tins Portuguese Sardines
7 Bags Bomlas	1 Ball Gouda Cheese
122 Tins Boiled Abalone	1 Tin Picnic Hams.

D. General Measures of Sanitation

114. The Health staff consists of:—

5 Senior Health Inspectors.
1 Port Health Inspector.
62 Health Inspectors.

For sanitation purposes, Port Louis is divided into six sections, Plaines Wilhems District into two divisions of two sections each and the remaining districts into seven divisions. The inspections made by the health staff during the year are listed in Table VII.

115. *District of Port Louis.—(a)* The Health Office for the district of Port Louis is administered by a Senior Medical Officer of Health who is also Port Health Officer. He has under him one Senior Health Inspector, seven Health Inspectors and six disinfectors. A Port Health Officer is in charge of port sanitary duties and is also responsible for anti-rodent measures for which he has a staff of thirteen.

(b) The number of rats caught by trapping was :—

Rats	5,017
Mice	1,679
Musks	139
TOTAL ...	6,835

Most of the operations are now carried out by poison treatment, which means that infestations are completely cleared without many traces of rodents alive or dead being seen. The figures quoted above therefore do not convey an accurate idea of the actual destruction taking place.

(c) The following figures refer to Port Louis District :—

AREA : 16 SQUARE MILES

Estimated population at the 31st December, 1956	...	97,988
Density per square mile	...	6,124
Live births	...	4,516
Birth rate per 1,000	... 46·9	
Still Births	...	323
Deaths	...	1,344
Death rate per 1,000	... 14·0	

116. *Plaines Wilhems District.*—All the work is supervised by a Medical Officer of Health who has Health Officers in Curepipe, Vacoas and Rose Hill

The following figures refer to Plaines Wilhems District :—

AREA : 78 SQARE MILES

Estimated population at the 31st December	...	172,549
Density per square mile	...	2,212
Live births	...	7,060
Birth rate per 1,000	... 41·6	
Still births	...	514
Deaths	...	1,787
Death rate per 1,000	... 10·5	

E. PORT HEALTH AND QUARANTINE

117. Port Louis is the only seaport in Mauritius for ocean-going vessels. Health measures in the port area are directed by the Medical Officer of Health for Port Louis, assisted by a Port Health Inspector. There is a well-equipped Disinfecting Station to carry out disinfection and fumigation. Under the International Sanitary Regulations, 1951, Port Louis is an approved and designated port for the issue of deratting and deratting exemption certificates. Four deratting and eight deratting exemption certificates were issued during the year. The number of vessels admitted to pratique during the year is given in Table VIII. No passenger coming from abroad was detained on account of any of the quarantinable diseases.

118. The airport is in the south of the Island at Plaisance. The District Medical Officer, assisted by a Sanitary Inspector, is responsible for all sanitary measures at the airport. 166 civil aircraft arrived in the Colony with 3,007 passengers of whom 321 coming from infected areas were put under surveillance. All planes were dis-insected on reaching and before leaving the airport.

F. Water Supplies

119. Work continued on the development of the Colony's water supplies :—

(*a*) *Mare-aux-Vacoas Supply.*—This supply is operative in the districts of Plaines Wilhems, Moka, Black River, part of Port Louis, the higher parts of Grand Port and Savane and the Vallée des Pretres and Montagne Longue areas. Consumption reached about 8,300,000 gallons per day at the end of 1956. The area of the filters at La Marie was increased by 10,600 square feet, bringing the total filtering area to 150,600 square feet. Three more filters were under construction. A new chloronome was added to the two in service.

In the Plaines Wilhems area, the supply of Quatre Bornes, Rose Hill and Beau Bassin was further improved by laying new mains from Vacoas Reservoir to Palma and to Candos and Rose Hill reservoirs, and from Rose Hill reservoir towards Beau Bassin. In the Moka area the supply of St. Pierre, Bois Cheri and adjoining localities was improved by laying a new main from Alma Reservoir to St. Pierre. In the Black River area the supply was extended to Coteau Raffin.

(*b*) *Piton du Milieu and Nicoliere.*—Filters for 4,000,000 gallons per day at Piton du Milieu and 1,000,000 gallons per day at Nicolière are still under construction. In Flacq district a new service reservoir of 200,000 gallons capacity at Bonne Mère was brought into service for Centre of Flacq and surrounding localities, a new 8" main being laid from the reservoir to Centre of Flacq. A new main was also laid from L'Unité to Belle Rose Reservoir and from Belle Rose reservoir to Bel Air.

In Pamplemousses and Rivière du Rempart districts the supply was extended to Calebasses and Powder Mills.

In Savanne the supply was extended to Benares, Rivière des Anguilles and St. Aubin and in Grand Port district to Riche en Eau and Mahebourg.

(*c*) *Riviere des Galets Supply (Savanne).* The dam on Rivière des Galets was completed. Laying of mains towards Mont Blanc, Chemin Grenier and Surinam was continued.

G. Schools Medical Service

Work of the School Medical Officers

120.—*(a)* All the Primary Schools were visited, the following number of pupils being examined :—

Entrants	...	5,556
"Special"	...	1,168
Re-examinations	...	2,250

17 per cent of the entrants were classified as being of "poor general condition". 7.2 per cent required medical treatment.

Below is a summary of the different findings district by district in respect of entrants only :—

District	*No. examined*	*Poor general condition* %	*Anæmia* %	*Bitot's Spots Vit. A Deficiency* %	*Scabies*	*Otorrhœa* %
Grand Port—Savanne ...	995	19·6	3·6	0·4	1·0	0·5
Moka—Flacq	1,209	20·2	2·0	0·7	1·3	0·4
Pamplemousses—Riviere du Rempart	1,379	12·1	1·5	0 6	0·5	1·0
Plaines Wilhems	1,036	15·6	1·9	0·8	0·5	0·6
Black River	164	23·7	1·8	1·2	0	0·6
Port Louis	813	11·0	0·7	0·2	0·2	0·4

(b) Thirteen visits were paid and 1,738 pupils were examined during the period June to October at Cannoniers' Point School Holiday Camp. Forty-five pupils required medical treatment.

(c) Sixty-five temporary teachers and thirty-six school servants were examined for employment by the Education Department, as well as 238 candidates selected for admission to the Teachers's Training College.

(d) 63 Entrants at the Royal College and 58 Entrants at the Royal College School were also examined.

(e) Lectures on Health Education were given weekly throughout the year to the students of the Teachers' Training College.

121.—*(a) Work of the School Nursing Staff*—The School Nurses and the Nursing Assistant visited 135 schools for cleanliness and health surveys.

Of 48,462 pupils examined during the cleanliness survey :—

8·15 per cent had dirty finger nails
15· 0 per cent had nits
6·12 per cent had nits and lice
9·44 per cent did not have a handkerchief or clean piece of cloth
7·35 per cent did not have a toothbrush.

The corresponding percentage figures for 1955 were 9.43, 16.2, 8.47, 15.66 and 7.07 respectively.

During the year 585 pints of concentrated "Gammexane" solution and 18 pints of concentrated "D. D. T." solution (with instructions to dilute before use) were distributed to all schools. The nursing staff co-operated in the campaign to sell nailbrushes, nit combs and toothbrushes from Education Office Headquarters. 142 nit combs, 192 nailbrushes and 695 toothbrushes were sold during the year.

(b) 50,395 pupils were examined during the health survey 2,735 of them were referred to the School Medical Officer. 141 schools were visited for "follow up" of pupils under treatment. 6,657 pupils were examined and 1,251 were treated.

(c) With the help of the Nutrition and Health Assistant 130 schools were visited for distance vision surveys of pupils in the third and sixth standards. 21,430 pupils were examined and 374 were referred to the School Medical Officer.

(d) Where necessary, treatment was given to pupils in schools for minor ailments. The stock of First Aid materials in schools was replenished regularly and 19 schools were provided with new First Aid cabinets.

122.—*(a) Nutrition.*—At the end of the year 98.7 percent of the pupils in attendance were taking their milk ration. 3,289 pupils were receiving a double ration of milk and 8 yeast tablets daily at school. In addition, 579 pupils were also receiving a supplement of Vitamins A and D in the form of Halibut Oil capsules or Cod Liver Oil.

(b) The Milk Officer and the Nutrition and Health Assistant supervised the running of the milk Scheme. They have to report any defects in the state of cleanliness of school servants who prepare the milk and of the utensils.

(c) 53 samples of milk being distributed to the pupils were sent during the year to the Government Chemist for analysis for estimation of their nutritive value.

(d) Talks on Nutrition were given to senior pupils in some schools by the Nutrition and Health Assistant and the whole staff co-operated with the Medical Officer of the World Health Organization Nutrition Project in his survey on anaemia among schoolchildren.

123. The Tuberculosis Specialist and his staff have continued the B.C.G. Campaign and during the year the World Health Organization team engaged on a tuberculin sensitivity survey visited the schools to perform a number of tuberculin tests.

19 more contacts of Pulmonary Tuberculosis have been detected among the pupils, bringing the total number, to date, to 99.

The practice of submitting all new teaching staff and school servants to an X-Ray examination of chest in addition to a routine medical examination was continued : thus three candidates selected for the Training College showed active Pulmonary Tuberculosis on X-Ray examination and were rejected.

124. *Enteric Fever.*—During the first quarter of the year one of the School Medical Officers inoculated 5,371 pupils in 15 schools of Grand Port District with T.A.B. vaccine as part of the measures adopted to deal with an Enteric Fever outbreak in the district.

125. *Health Education.*—Continued emphasis was laid on this aspect of the work. Health education of both pupil and parent was possible through the medical inspections, and in the course of the cleanliness inspections the nurses gave advice to both pupil and teacher. Regular teeth cleaning drills were continued in schools. Teachers in training had lectures and demonstrations at the Training College from the Government Dentists.

The Education Department continued its Associate membership scheme of "the Central Council for Health Education" in U.K. and material received during the year was used in Health Education Work. The monthly "Better Health" was sent regularly to all schools.

PART V

Maternal and Child Health

126. The scheme for the expansion of the maternal and child health services in rural areas which was commented upon in last year's report continued to be implemented. In January, the new centre at Surinam was opened and staffed, the Bambous centre followed in February and in July, it was the turn of l'Escalier centre. The villagers were quick to take advantage of this development and by the end of the year, 1,337 women had attended the ante-natal clinics held at the new centres, and 262 confinements had been conducted by the midwives attached thereto.

127. There was a considerable increase in the work supervised by the Superintendent of Midwives. Attendances at the various ante-natal clinics which are under her direct control amounted to 15,131 as compared with 4,572 for 1955 ; and the midwives posted to those clinics conducted 4,083 confinements (2,794 in 1955). The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Midwives personally visited 1,746 newly confined women in their homes to give them advice and attention and to guide them on the hygiene and feeding of their babies. This service which was at first tolerated by the people seems to be well received now and much good has come of the visits made.

128. The Principal Matron holds three ante-natal clinics and a summary of the work performed by her is given below :—

(a) Eastern Dispensary, Port Louis :—

New cases	2,013
Re-attendances	7,878
TOTAL ...	9,891

(b) Bel Air Dispensary :—

New cases	437
Re-attendances	1,896
TOTAL ...	2,333

(c) Medine-Camp de Masque :—

New cases	157
Re-attendances	791
TOTAL ...	948

129. The Mobile Ante-Natal Unit had to bear a fair share of the work, the number of new cases seen being 2,683 and the re-attendances amounting to 7,503.

130. The district midwifery service based on the Civil Hospital, Port Louis, produced record figures which are detailed hereunder :—

(a) Ante-Natal Clinic :—

New cases	2,481
Total attendances	12,803

(b) District Midwifery Service :—

Confinements	1,144
Ante-natal visits	1,178
Post-natal visit	16,120

(c) Ward Work :—

Admissions	2,010
Confinements	1,703

131. The activities of the Maternity and Child Welfare Society are listed below :—

Confinements	2,931
Attendances of women at consultations	5,992
Attendances of infants at consultations	8,160
Attendances of Infants at Centres for weighing and supervision :	
(a) First attendance	2,884
(b) Re-attendance	16,677
Visits to infants	1,885
Average number of infants receiving milk daily ...	1,104
Average number of litres of milk distributed daily	528

132. It is a routine to take blood for serological tests from women attending the ante-natal clinics for the first time. Any case requiring treatment is referred to the hospital on which is based the centre attented by the woman. Another routine at the clinics is the issue of iron and yeast tablets. Cod liver oil and vitamin preparations are given under supervision.

PART VI

Prisons

133. The total number of prisoners admitted into prisons during the year was 1,703 and the daily average population was 597.98 (including the Borstal Institution).

The total number of sick cases registered was 4,583 of which 251 were admitted into hospital. The daily average of sick treated as out-door patients was 11.8; the daily average of patients in hospital 12.5, while the sick rate calculated on the daily average in hospital was 4.83 per cent. Only one death caused by pneumonia was registered among the inmates.

134. The general health of the prisoners was good on the whole, influenza in winter and enteritis in summer remaining the prevailing diseases. On admission, 47 prisoners were suffering from scabies, 18 from Venereal diseases and 4 from deficiency states associated with defective nutrition.

PART VII

The Dependency of Rodrigues

135. The vital statistics are as follows :—

AREA OF RODRIGUES : 40 square miles.

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Estimated population at the 31st December, 1956	7,883	8,151	16,034
Estimated mid-year population	—	—	15,879
Density per square mile : 401	—	—	—
Live births	391	365	756
Live births per 1,000 population	—	—	47·6
Still births	—	—	25
Still birth rate per 100 live births..	—	—	3,31
Deaths	103	68	171
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	—	—	10·8
Maternal deaths	—	1	1
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 births (live and still)...	—	—	1·28
Infant mortality	47	21	68
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births	—	—	89·9

136. The population which, as in Mauritius, is increasing at an alarming rate, is on the whole in good health and is taking advantage of the health services provided in the Dependency. The attendances at the dispensaries and the number of persons seeking admissions into hospital are constantly on the increase, and the response to an island-wide whooping-couch vaccination campaign was a striking demonstration of confidence.

137. There was the usual seasonal outbreak of influenza complicated in many cases of bronchitis and pneumonia. Intestinal diseases constitute a problem, specially in the summer season when flies breed more freely. Anæmia and nutritional diseases are encountered, but not to the extent one would expect in a population living on a poor and monotonous diet of maize, sweet potatoes and cassava, with some fish added from time to time.

138. Two cases of leprosy, ex-patients of the Leper Asylum in Mauritius, were referred for admission because of a serious flare-up of the disease. Six new cases, close relations of former leprous patients, are under treatment in the dependency.

139. In the absence of a reliable survey, the position regarding the incidence of tuberculosis remains obscure, but there is no reason to believe that the situation is alarming. The great majority of cases at present under observation or treatment have reported from the areas served by Mount Lubin Hospital and Dispensary.

140. Ante-natal clinics were held regularly at Port Mathurin and Mount Lubin Hospitals and continued to attract a fair number of expectant mothers. The number of ante-natal examinations carried out was 1,279. The post-natal clinics are not so well attended but, as explained in last year's report, the Rodrigues community is not yet at a sufficiently advanced level to appreciate fully the importance of health in all circumstances of life.

141. A school Medical Service was started during the year. All the entrants of the three schools of the island were examined and pupils of the other classes who were found to be below par were given regular medical attention.

142. It was possible to post a second Medical Officer to Rodrigues with effect from the 23rd April, thus easing the heavy task which had in the past to be shouldered by one man only. This posting coincided with the supply of modern anaesthetic equipment which has permitted of a number of major and intermediate operations being attempted with confidence and safety. It was customary to transfer all serious cases to the hospitals of Mauritius. The new developments have reduced the number of such transfers.

143. There are three hospitals at Rodrigues. The main one at Port Mathurin with 40 beds has now reached the final stage of decrepitude and is due to be replaced by the middle of 1958 by a modern institution of 68 beds which will be erected on a plateau at Creve Coeur. The drawings are ready and it is planned to start building operations early in 1957. The two other institutions are small village hospitals sited at Mont Lubin and La Ferme with 30 beds between them.

The following figures summarise the work performed in the three hospitals :—

	1956	*1955*
Out-patients attendances	47,739	44,690
Admissions to hospitals	2,291	2,263
Surgical operations performed ...	906	903

The number of deaths occurring in hospitals was 45 (39 in 1955).

144. One of the Government dentists spent three months in Rodrigues at the beginning of the year and treated 628 school children and 520 other persons. He performed 1,075 extractions and did 190 fillings, 29 scalings and 3 root treatments. The dentist reports that, taken as a whole, the Rodrigues children have better teeth than the Mauritians. In the 10–14 year group the caries incidence is 1·3 per child.

145. The Health Inspector posted to the dependency concentrated his activities on the area around Port Mathurin and visited La Ferme and Mount Lubin at regular intervals. His main duties are those of a health educator.

Acknowledgement

146. It is my pleasant duty once again to state that if the Department succeeded in meeting the need for greatly varied public health activity and in maintaining a satisfactory standard of health despite shortage of staff, inadequate accommodation and other difficult circumstances, the results achieved are in no small measure due to the loyal and active co-operation of the members of the staff.

The co-operation of the public either individually or through the medium of local authorities, corporate bodies and voluntary organizations has been essential in the realisation of the Department's aims.

I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to all.

R. Lavoipierre,

30th December, 1957. *Director of Medical Services.*

APPENDIX I

Annual Report of the Central Health Laboratory for the year 1956

LABORATORY RECEIPTS IN THE FORM OF FEES

The total earnings for the year amounted to Rs. 24,706.33

The work of the laboratory is divided up into the following sections :—

I. Medical Biology
II. Histology
III. Bacteriology
IV. Haematology
V. Serology
VI. Biochemistry
VII. Veterinary.

I. MEDICAL BIOLOGY

(a) Faeces (Microscopical)

Total number examined	4,012
Helminths :—	
Hymenolepis nana	2
Taenia saginata	8
Bertiella studeri	1
Enterobius vermicularis	6
Trichuris ova	654
Ascaris ova	904
Hookworm ova	1,870
Strongyloides larvae	42
Protozoa :—	
Entamoeba histolytica	65
Entamoeba coli	151
Vegetative and precystic amoebae ...	48
Iodamoeba Butschlii	3
Endolimax nana	205
Giardia (Lamblia) intestinalis ...	146
Chilomastix mesnili	28
Trichomonas intestinalis	50
Blastocystis hominis	470
No helminths, no protozoa	606

(b) Urine (Microscopical)

Total number examined	3,025
Casts	491
Trichomonas vaginalis	33
Schistosoma haemotobium	108
Red blood cells	359
Pus	267
Crystals	537

(c) Urine for pregnancy (Male toad tests)

Total number examined	2,086
Number of positives	839

(d) Cerebro-Spinal Fluid

Leucocyte count	241

(e) Semen

Total number examined	6

(f) Pus, Discharges, Scrapings

Total number examined	3

(g) Blood

Inoculation to guinea pig	5

(h) Vomit (Microscopic Examination)

Total number examined	1

II.—HISTOLOGY

Biopsy and Morbid histological examinations were made on 385 specimens of material.

Head and Neck :—	
Brain :—	
Normal	1
Menningioma	1
Face :—	
Epithelioma	1
Nose :—	
Epithelioma	3
Fibroma	1
Granulation tissue	1
Ethmoid :—	
Epithelioma	1
Eye :—	
Sarcoma	1
? Oligodendroglioma	1
Detached retina	1
Parotid Gland :—	
Fibrosis	1
Mixed tumour	2
Check :—	
Haemangioma	1
Ear :—	
Fibroma	2
Mouth :—	
Ulcer	1
Papilloma of soft palate	1
Tongue :—	
Papilloma	1
Hypertrophy	1
Haemangioma	1
Gum :—	
Epithelioma	2
Gingivitis	1

Tonsils :—	
Epithelioma	1
Larynx :—	
Papilloma	1
Squamous carcinoma	1
Granulation tissue	1
Jaw :—	
Osteogenic sarcoma	1
Squamous carcinoma	1
Granuloma	7
Squamous carcinoma	4
Epulis	2
Thyroid :—	
Adenoma	5
Thorax :—	
Chest Wall :—	
Encephaloid carcinoma	1
Breast :—	
Normal	2
Mastitis	6
Abscess	3
Fibroadenoma	5
Duct carcinoma	1
Scirrhous carcinoma	6
Encephaloid carcinoma	4
Adenocarcinoma	1
Abdomen :—	
Abdominal wall :—	
Secondary adenocarcinoma	1
Fibroma	2
Abscess	1
Mesenteric cyst	1
Secondary carcinoma of peritoneum ...	1
Stomach :—	
Inflammatory thickening of pylorus ...	1
Necrosis from poisoning	1
Simple ulcer	5
Adenocarcinoma	3
Large Intestine :—	
Adenocarcinoma of colon	1
Adenocarcinoma of rectum	2
Benign polypus of rectum	1
Ulcer of colon	1
Fistula in ano	1
Chronic inflammation of anus ...	1
Wart of anus	2
Appendix :—	
S. Hæmatobial appendicitis	2
Liver :—	
Hepatitis	1
Cirrhosis	1
Malaria (from an Askari soldier) ...	1

Spleen :—	
Banti's disease	1
Malaria (Askari soldier)	1
Suprarenal Gland :—	
Normal	1
Gall Bladder :—	
Chronic cholecystitis	1
Pelvis :—	
Urinary bladder :—	
Fragment of mucous membrane ...	1
Ureter :—	
Transitional carcinoma	1
Prostate :—	
Simple hypertrophy	2
Adenocarcinoma	1
Testicle :—	
Chronic orchitis	1
Seminoma	1
Haemangioma	1
Penis :—	
Epithelioma	1
Ovary :—	
Follicular cyst	2
Fibroma	1
Papillary cystadenoma	1
Granulosa cell carcinoma	1
Spindle cell sarcoma	1
Ovarian pregnancy	1
Vulva :—	
Fibroma	1
Vaginal wall :—	
Inflammatory ulceration	1
Squamous carcinoma	1
Uterus :—	
Normal endometrium	14
Hyperplasia of endometrium ...	34
Endometritis	2
Adenocarcinoma	4
Fibromyama	7
Products of conception	4
Placenta Accreta	1
Cervis :—	
Chronic cervicitis	2
S. haematobial cervicitis	4
Polypus	6
Cervical erosion	1
Squamous carcinoma	11
Adenocarcinoma	3
Fallopian tubes :—	
Chronic salpingitis	1

Limbs :—	
Fibrosarcoma of elbow	1
Chronic dactylitis	1
Tuberculous dactylitis	1
Abscess of thigh	1
Chronic inflammatory sinus of thigh ...	1
Round cell sarcoma of tibia	1
Chronic inflammation of foot	1
Capillary haemangioma of sole ...	1
Gangrene of foot	2
Epithelioma of leg	2
Simple ulcer of leg	1
Fibroma toe	1
Wart of toe	1
Skin :—	
Normal	3
Abscess	2
Fibroma	2
Sebaccous cyst	3
Inflammation	3
Wart	6
Keloid	1
Papilloma	1
Lipoma	4
Naevus	1
Haemangioma	3
Squamous carcinoma	1
Melanoma	3
Chronic ulcer	1
Blood Vessels :—	
Normal vein	1
Arteriosclerosis	4
Thromboangiitis obliterans	3
Bones :—	
Normal	1
Spindle cell sarcoma	1
Chronic osteomyelitis	7
Osteoclastoma	2
Chondrosarcoma	2
Mixed cell sarcoma	1
Abscess	1
Joints :—	
Tuberculous arthritis	6
Chronic arthritis	21
Chronic bursitis	5
Muscles :—	
Myositis	3
Myosarcoma	1
Volkmann's contracture	1

Lymph Glands :—	
Chronic adenitis	16
Tuberculous adenitis	8
Normal lymph gland	3
Lymphosarcoma	7
Hodgkin's disease	3
Miscellaneous :—	
Sympathetic ganglion	2
Granulation tissue	1
Sarcoma from unknown Site	1
Haemangioma from unknown Site ...	2
Blood clot	4
Inflamation of nail bed	1
Fibrous tissue	3
Cellular debris	1
Animals :—	
Fowls :—	
Haemorrhagic spleen	1
Lymphocytic inflammation of liver ...	1
Pus from intestinal wall	1

III. BACTERIOLOGY

A. Direct Microscopical Examinations

2,807 microscopical examinations were made :—

(a) Sputum.

Total number examined	1,926
Mycobacter tuberculosis	194

(b) Cerebro-Spinal Fluid.

Total number examined	73
Pneumococcus	1

(c) Throat and nasal swabbings.

Total number examined	78
Corynebact diphtheriae	13

(d) Pus, discharges, scrapings etc.

Total number examined	160
Staphylococcus albus	2
Mycobacter tuberculosis	4
Neisseria gonorrhoae	16

B. Cultures

Total number examined	3,953

(a) Blood.

Total number examined	81
Staphylococcus aureus	1
Bact. typhosum	1
Morgan's bacilli	2
Streptococcus haemolyticus	1
Staphylococcus albus	1

(b) Faeces

Total number cultured	172
Bact. typhosum	2

(c) Urine

Total number cultured	733
Bact. Coli	205
Bact. alkaligenes	8
Bact. proteus	14
Bact. paracolon	4
Morgan's bacilli	24
Pseudomonas pyocyanea	20
Staphylococcus aureus	9
Staphylococcus albus	1
Streptococcus haemolyticus	3
Streptococcus viridans	3
Streptococcus faecalis	1
Mycobacter tuberculosis	4
Inoculafion to guinea pig	11

(d) Sputum

Total number cultured	51
Bact. proteus	1
Bact. Freidlanderi	1
Diphtheroid	1
Streptococcus viridans	9
Mycobacter tuberculosis	11
Neisseria catharralis	1

(e) Cerebro-Spinal Fluid

Total number cultured	73
Bact. alkaligenes	1
Streptococcus pneumoniae	3

(f) Throat and Nasal Swabbings

Total number cultured	1,857
Corynebact diphtheriae	230
Diphtheroids	59
Staphylococcus aureus	85
Staphylococcus albus	7
Streptococcus haemolyticus	116
Streptococcus viridans	2
Virulence test for corynebact diptheriae	8

(g) Pus, Discharges & Scrapings etc.

Total number cultured	993
Bact. coli typical	8
Bact. coli atypical	1
Bact. proteus	11
Bact. paracolon	2
Bact. alkaligens	4
Bact. Morax Axenfeldt	2
Morgan's bacillus	4
Pseudomonas pyocyanea	2
Doderlein's bacillus	11
Diphteroids	11
Staphylococcus aureus	86
Staphylococcus albus	475
Streptococcus haemolyticus	26
Corynebact diphtheriae	1

(h) Vaccine

Stock T.A.B. prophylactic vaccine ...	42 lits.
T.A.B. for protein shock ...	500 mls.
Stock polyvalent streptococcal vaccine	250 mls.
Stock staphylococcal antivirus ...	4 lits.
Various autogenous vaccines ...	9 cases

(i) Miscellaneous

Sensitivity to antibiotics ...	44 cases
Milk analysis	1
Water analysis	434

IV. HAEMATOLOGY

Total number examined	6,910
Haemoglobin estimations	1,326
Red cells counts	871
White cells counts	381
Differential counts	372
Blood sedimentation rates	506
A.B.O. groupings	2,201
Cross matchings	650
Rhesus factors	199
Rhesus anti-body	11
Packed cell volume	38
Mean corpuscular haemoglobin ...	35
Mean corpuscular haemoglobin concentration	37
Platelets counts	4
Reticulocyte counts	4
Bleeding time	89
Coagulation time	90
Malarial parasites	2 (2 negative)
Film for microfilariae	83 (5 positive)
Bone marrow	5
Coombes test	3
Fragility test	1
Formol Gel test	1

Princess Margaret Orthopaedic Centre

Total number examined	1,731
Haemoglobin estimations	552
Red blood cells counts	129
White blood cells counts	131
Differential counts	104
Blood sedimentation rates	500
Blood grouping	213
Cross matchings	102

V. SEROLOGY

I. Blood

(a) Agglutination Test

Total number number of sera submitted for agglutination test	912
Significant agglutinins for Bact. Typhosum "H"	281
Significant agglutinins for Bact. Typhosum "O"	128
Significant agglutinins for Bact. Paratyphosum "A"	44
Significant agglutinins for Bact. Paratyphosum "A"	33
Significant agglutinins for Bact. Proteus OX 2	2
Significant agglutinins for Bact. Proteus OX 19	7
Significant agglutinins for Bact. Proteus OXK	3
Brucella Abortus	1

(b) Kahn tests

Negative	15,959
Doubtfull reactions	518
+	532
++	620
+++	341
++++	83
Unsuitable for test	215
TOTAL ...	18,268

(c) Kline tests

Negative	16,516
Doubtful reactions	652
+	598
++	532
+++	384
++++	166
Unsuitable for test	200
TOTAL ...	19,048

(d) Wasserman reactions

Negative	947
Doubtful reactions	84
+	114
++	103
+++	128
++++	92
Unsuitable for test	341
TOTAL ...	1,809

(e) Gonorrhoea complement fixation test

Negative	17
Doubtful reactions	2
+	3
+ + ...	2
+ + + ...	3
+ + + + ...	—
Unsuitable for test	6
TOTAL ...	33

(f) Blood

Paul Bunnell's test	9

II. CEREBRO-SPINAL FLUID

(a) Wassermann reactions

Negative	123
Doubtful	8
+	4
+ + ...	2
+ + + ...	2
+ + + + ...	2
Unsuitable for test	12
TOTAL ...	153

(b) Kahn test

Total number examined	7

VI. BIOCHEMISTRY

(a) Urine

Total number examined	2,379
Albumen—qualitative	247
Albumen—quantitative	8
Glucose—qualitative	95
Glucose—quantitative	75
Acetone	7
Bile pigments	20
Bile salts	1
Specific gravity	35
Urea	6
Bence Jones Protein	2
Urobilinogen	5
Cl as NaCl	1
Lactose	1
Galactose	1

(b) Blood

Urea	1,693
Glucose	2,242
Bromides	171
Protein	99
Albumen	64
Globulin	64
Cholesterol	19
Calcium	10
Alkaline phosphatase	27
Acid phosphatase	19
Phosphorous	3
Chlorides	26
Uric Acid	5
Amylase	1
Thymol turbidity test	20
Van Den Bergh reaction	68
Bilirubin	50
Icterus index	6
Urea clearance test	4
Prothombin index	1
TOTAL ...	4,592

(c) Cerebro-Spinal Fluid

Protein	239
Chlorides	196
Glucose	182

(d) Faeces

Occult blood	103
Bile pigments	3
Fats	1

(e) Miscellaneous

Total number examined	24
Fractional test meal	3
Ascitic Fluid :—	
Specific gravity	1
Protein	1
Pleural Fluid :—	
Protein	3
Exudates :—	
Protein	1
Calculi :—	
Urinary	7
Renal	1
Urines :—	
Diastase	2
Urea	4
Bile pigments	1

VII. VETERINARY

A. (Microscopical)

(a) Faeces

Total number examined	14
Horses	9
Dogs	5

(b) Blood

Blood smears from Bovines	2

B. Post Mortem Examinations

Total number examined	123
Chickens	109
Turkey	1
Small birds	3
Calf	2
Sheep	1
Goat	6
Fish	1

C. Cultures

(i) Material from chickens	17
(ii) Sheath washings from bulls	15
Number of positives for Trichomonas fœtus	2
(iii) Muco purulent vaginal discharge from cows	1
Number of positives for Trichomonas fœtus	—
(iv) Material from goats	5
Number of positives for Mycobacter tuberculosis	4

D. Agglutination Test

(i) Hæmagglutination inhibition test for Newcastle disease of poultry	60
(ii) Number of bovine sera tested ...	139
Significant agglutinins for Brucella Abortus	14
Significant agglutinins for Salmonella bovis-morbificans	—
(iii) Number of caprine sera tested ...	124
Significant agglutinins for Brucella Abortus	1
Significant agglutinins for Salmonella bovis morbificant	13
(iv) Number of equine sera tested ...	1
Significant agglutinins for Salmonella bovis morbificans	—

E. Biochemistry

Blood urea estimation (goats) ...	23

F. Vaccine

Newcastle disease vaccine (oral) ...	79,000 doses

APPENDIX II

Annual Report of the Victoria Hospital Branch Laboratory

I. MEDICAL BIOLOGY

(a) Blood (Miscroscopicat)

Total number examined	...	...	51
Blood films for malaria parasites		...	41
Blood films for microfilariae	...	...	10

(b) Faeces (microscopical)

Total examinations	...	...	3,332
Helminths :—			
Ascaris ova	...	...	1,721
Hookworm ova	...	...	1,401
Trichuris ova	...	...	2,898
Hetereodora Marioni	...	...	4
Oxyuris vermicularis	...	...	1
Strongyloides larvae	...	...	1
Brotozoa :—			
Entamoeba Histolytica	...	...	1
Entamoeba Coli cysts	...	...	20
Endolimax Nana cysts	...	...	6
Vegetative and precystic amoeba		...	28
Trichomonas	...	...	3
Giardia (Lamblia) cysts	...	...	65
Blastocysts	...	...	667
No Helminths, no protozoa	...	...	434

(c) Urine (Microscopical)

Total examinations	...	...	1,418
Pus Cells	...	...	814
Casts	...	...	400
Trichomonas vaginalis		...	84
Schistosoma haematobium	...	...	60

II. BACTERIOLOGY

(a) Sputum

Total number examined	...	...	1,215
Mycobacter tuberculosis	...	...	211

(b) Throat and Nasal Swabbings

Total number examined	...	...	78
Cornyebact diptheriae	...	...	10 (positive)

(c) Pus, Discharges, Scrapings

Total number examined	...	...	92
Neisseria gonorrhoea	...	...	18

(d) Urine

Urine for micro-organisms	...	...	2

III. HAEMATOLOGY

Total examinations	5,583
Blood counts	2,608
Differential blood counts	580
Platelets counts	18
Bleeding time	29
Goagulation time	31
A. B. O. groupings and X-matchings ...	1,417
Blood sedimentation rate	900

IV. BIOCHEMISTRY

(a) Urine

Total number examined	4,757
Reactions	1,484
Albumen qualitative	1,572
Albumen quantitative	2
Glucose qualitative	1,522
Glucose quantitative	16
Tests for acetone	100
Tests for bile	61

(b) Stools

Stools for Occult Blood	3

(c) Gastric juice

Fractional test meal	98

APPENDIX III

Annual Report ot the Civil Hospital Branch Laboratory

I. MEDICAL BIOLOGY

(a) Blood (Microscopical)

Total number examined	...	...	80
Malaria film (negative)	...	...	47
Plasmodium Vivax	...	...	1
Plasmodium Falciparum	...	...	1
Microfilariæ (negative)	...	...	28
W. Bancrofti ...	...	...	3

(b) Faeces (Microscopical)

Total number examined	...	...	2,740
Helminths :—			
Ascaris ova ..	...	...	872
Trichuris ova ...	...	...	735
Hookworm ova ...	...	...	369
Enterobius vermicularis	...	...	4
Heterodera Marioni	...	...	1
Strongyloides larvæ	...	...	26
Hymenolepis nana	...	...	2
Protozoa :—			
Entamœba Histolytica cysts		...	110
Entamœba Coli cysts	...	...	172
Vegetative and Precystic amœba		...	42
Entamœba Butschlii	...	...	1
Endolimax nana ...	...	...	61
Giardia (Lamblia) cysts	...	...	146
Chilomastix ...	...	...	16
Trichomonas ...	...	...	46
Cercomonas ...	...	...	1
Blastocystis ...	...	...	468
No Helminths, no protozoa ...		...	762

(c) Urine (Microscopical)

Total number examined	...	...	4,296
Casts	...	...	916
Pus	...	...	1,208
Red blood cells ...	...	...	1,051
Crystals ...	...	...	593
Schistosoma haematobium	...	...	392
Microfilariae ...	...	...	4
Trichomonas vaginalis	...	...	132

II. BACTERIOLOGY

(a) Sputum

Total number examined	...	...	2,107
Mycobacter tuberculosis	...	...	393

(b) Urine, Pus, etc.

Total number examined	...	...	7

(c) Throat and Nasal Swabs, etc.

Total number examined	176
Throat Swabs	131
Number of positive for Corynebacteria ...	11
Nasal Swabs	44
Number of positive for Corynebacteria ...	8
Mouth Swab for Moniliasis	1

(d) Pus, Discharges, Swabbings

Total number examined	372
Neisseria Gonorrhoea	64
Trichomonas vaginalis	1

(e) Miscellaneous

C.S.F. Cells Counts	9

III. HAEMATOLOGY

Total number examined	7,685
Haemoglobin estimations	1,861
Red Blood Cells counts	1,361
White Blood Cells Counts	955
Differential Counts	987
A. B. O. Groupings	645
Cross-Matchings	1,104
Blood Sedimentation Rate	718
Bleeding Time	13
Coagulation Time	16
Platelets	15
Reticulocytes Count	1
Fragility Test	1
Mean Corpuscular Volume	8

IV. BIOCHEMISTRY

(a) Faeces

Total number examined	8
Occult Blood positive	3

(a) Fractional Test Meal

Total number examined	54

(c) Urine

Total number examined	4,666
Albumen Qualitative	2,110
Albumen Quantitative	15
Glucose Qualitative	2,095
Glucose Quantitative	84
Bile determination	117
Acetone	172
Specific gravity	73

APPENDIX IV

Annual Report of the Government Chemist for 1956

GENERAL CHEMICAL ANALYSES

During the year, 5,460 samples were received involving 11,914 tests. Table I gives full details on the various items.

Milk—The check on the quality of milk distributed to pupils invarious schools showed that on several occasions the milk distributed contained an excess of milk solids or sugar, and sometimes a deficiency of both. On each occasion the case was reported to the School Medical Officer.

The Special Milk Unit, mention of which is made in my previous Reports, has continued to render efficient service, 276 samples being received from this unit only. It can definitely be said that, according to results recorded in the Laboratory for 1956, the quality of milk on sale is steadily improving, thanks to the close check kept by the Sanitary Inspectors on milk-sellers and cow-keepers.

Waters.—Samples of drinking water supplies from La Marie, Monneron, Pailles and Piton du Milieu were taken regularly for analysis.

Samples of water were taken from the tanks of the ship "Drakensberg Castle" and analysed regarding fitness for human consumption. Ammonia was the noxious substance, and advice was given to render the water wholesome.

Samples of water from a pool in which noxious substances were suspected to have been added which would have been injurious to fishes "gouramiers" were received from the Police. On analysis, no such substances were detected.

Cases of Poisoning (Human)

Of the 145 cases of poisoning or suspected poisoning, results were as follows :—

Phenol	...	40	Iodine	...	2	Morphine	1
Petroleum	...	15	Barbiturates	...	2	Phosphorus	1
Turpentine	...	5	Mercury	...	2	Aniline	1
Paraffin	...	1	Oxalates	...	1	Aldehydes	1
Sulphonated Azodye		1	Alcohol	...	1	Ethyl Alcohol	1

Negative results : 70

Cases of Poisoning (Animals)

Two fatal cases of doping of race horses were recorded. In the first case, strychnine was indentified, and in the second a barbiturate (gardenal) was present.

Gizzards of fowls and various organs of dogs were received for detection of poisonous substances—on several cases the tests were positive.

Cannabis and Opium

The number of analyses performed in connection with cannabis cases is on the increase, whilst that for opium has decreased, exhibits in respect of 4 cases only being received for the latter.

Textiles

308 samples of various specimens were received from the Customs for identification.

The majority of these specimens were found to contain over 15 percent by weight of artificial silk.

Drunkenness

800 samples of urine and blood were received from various hospitals of the Colony.

On analysis, approximately 50 per cent were found to contain a high percentage of alcohol.

Edible Oils

All consignments of edible oil received in the Colony were sampled and examined ; they were all found fit for human consumption, the greater percentage being cotton seed and ground nut oils.

Others are : soya, coconut, olive, mustard, niger, maize and sesame.

Cod liver and castor oils received by pharmacists were also analysed.

Rum and Denaturated Spirits

Several cases of fraud were reported by the Customs Authorities where it was stated that denaturated alcohol had been sold to the public as rum, after distillation or other methods of purification.

Investigations were started in this laboratory, which showed that the allegations were founded.

Research work was started, but had to be discontinued owing to pressure of other work and shortage of staff.

It is hoped that, as soon as the position will improve, research work in this direction will be resumed.

Miscellaneous

This item comprises analyses of : DDT powders, vinegars, hair lotions, semastic, mazout etc. etc.

Table II gives in detail the work performed at the Customs Laboratory during the year under review.

TABLE I

Description	*Samples received*	*Tests carried out*
Milk (for joint analysis) ...	26	130
Milk	1,010	5,210
Waters	60	240
Poisoning cases {human	145	185
Poisoning cases {animal	46	100
Gandia	1,442	2,884
Opium	14	42
Textiles	308	400
Drunkenness	800	800
Edible Oils	327	415
Power Alcohol	53	53
Rum {from warehouse	214	214
Rum {Police cases ...	325	400
Wash	10	20
Wine (local)	47	84
Pharmaceutical drugs ...	59	59
Chinese drugs	19	53
Gas tests	500	500
Miscellaneous	55	125
Total	5,460	11,914

TABLE II

Samples examined at the Customs' Laboratory during the year 1956 :—

Liquor	10	Hosiery	474
Brandy	42	Haberdashery	630
Cognac	14	Hats	188
Rum	6	Bed Sheets	243
Gin	14	Corsets	5
Vodka	4	Rugs and Blankets ...	93
Vermouth	14	Carpets	9
Wine imported	198	Towels	246
Whisky	37	Umbrellas	13
Flavouring Essences ...	56	Knitting Yarns	20
Vinegar	11	Local Vinegar	101
Piece Goods	1,571	Country Liquor	19,421
Wearing Apparel ...	2,800	Miscellaneous	405

TABLE I

Statistics of Hospitals

Hospital	Patients in hospital on 1.1.56	Total admissions	Deaths	Patients remaining on 31.12.56	No. of beds	No. of patients on any date during period under review		Medical Cases	Surgical Cases	No. of operations performed on	
						Maximum	Minimum			In-patients	Out-patients
Civil	254	9,492	540	263	410	405	242	6,274	3,218	2,460	9,808
Long Mountain	21	1,982	49	27	66	66	21	1,845	137	36	580
Poudre d'Or	25	1,527	22	21	70	70	21	1,159	368	7	415
Flacq	23	2,253	49	29	116	109	21	1,790	463	100	2,427
Mahebourg	62	2,782	95	62	105	105	48	1,950	832	53	1,327
Souillac	43	1,958	63	27	97	93	27	1,678	280	86	1,193
Moka	38	1,627	52	48	80	80	39	1,251	376	281	571
Victoria	197	7,786	353	149	263	274	192	5,691	2,095	2,095	14,091
Mental	21	548	27	18	78*	71	21	451	97	70	—
Industrial School	6	167	—	5	16	14	1	93	74	12	45
Beau Bassin Prisons	12	251	—	12	30	18	6	174	77	8	425
Princess Margaret Orthopaedic Centre ...	123	590	11	139	157	157	132	150	440	743	2,709
Leper	40	8	2	42	62	46	33	8	—	—	2
TOTAL	865	30,971	1,263	842	1,550	1,508	804	22,514	8,457	5,951	33,593

*Infirmary only. The Mental Hospital has a total bed strength of 707.

TABLE II

Statistics of Morbidity and Mortality Calendar Year 1956

	Intermediate List Cause Groups	Detailed List Numbers	Static dispensaries and out-patient depts of hospitals			Hospitals—(In patients)						Mobile Dispensaries Attendances
			New cases			Male patients		Female patients				
			Male	Female	Total cases	New cases	deaths	New cases	deaths	Total cases	Total deaths	
A	1. Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	001–008	—	—	—	268	33	221	16	489	49	—
A	2. Tuberculosis of meninges and central nervous system	010	—	—	—	7	5	3	1	10	6	—
A	3. Tuberculosis of intestines, peritoneum and mesenteric glands	011	—	—	—	—	—	13	4	13	4	—
A	4. Tuberculosis of bones and joints ...	012,013	—	—	—	4	—	3	—	7	—	—
A	5. Tuberculosis, all other forms	014–019	1	3	4	4	—	9	—	13	—	—
A	6. Congenital syphilis	020	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	3	1	—
A	7. Early syphilis	021	34	23	57	5	—	4	—	9	—	—
A	8. Tabes dorsalis	024	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	5	—	—
A	9. General paralysis of insane	025	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
A	10. All other syphilis	022,023 026–029	162	193	355	56	—	50	—	106	—	—
A	11. Gonoccocal infections ...	030–035	62	3	65	11	—	1	—	12	—	—
A	12. Typhoid fever	040	—	—	—	84	7	56	5	140	12	—
A	13. Paratyphoid fever and other Salmonella infections	041,042	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	14. Cholera	043	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	15. Brucellosis (undulant fever)	044	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	16.—(*a*) Bacillary dysentery	045	34	10	44	12	1	7	1	19	2	—
	(*b*) Amœbiasis	046	160	101	261	58	1	21	—	79	1	—
	(*c*) Other unspecified forms of dysentery	047,048	1,422	1,126	2,548	24	2	13	—	37	2	930
A	17. Scarlet fever	050	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	18. Streptococcal sore throat...	051	5	12	17	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
A	19. Erysipelas	052	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	3	—	—
A	20. Septicæmia and pyæmia	053	—	—	—	1	1	4	3	5	4	—
A	21. Diphtheria	055	—	1	1	15	5	20	4	35	9	—
A	22. Whooping cough	056	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
A	23. Meningococcal infections	057	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	2	1	—
A	24. Plague	058	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	25. Leprosy	060	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	26. Tetanus	061	—	—	—	71	27	44	15	115	42	—

A	27. Anthrax	062	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	28. Acute poliomyelitis	080	—	—	—	22	—	9	—	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	29. Acute infectious encephalitis	082	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	30. Late effects of acute poliomyelitis and acute infectious encephalitis	081,083	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	31. Smallpox	084	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	32. Measles	085	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	33. Yellow fever	091	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	34. Infectious hepatitis	092	45	37	82	55	2	12	1	67	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	35. Rabies	094	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	36.—(*a*) Louse-borne epidemic typhus ...	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*b*) Flea-borne endemic typhus (murine)	101	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*c*) Tickborne epidemic typhus	104	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*d*) Mite-borne typhus	105	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*e*) Other and unspecified typhus	102,103 106-108	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	37.—(*a*) Vivax malaria (benign tertian) ...	110	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*b*) Malariæ malaria (quartan)	111	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*c*) Falciparum malaria (malignant tertian)	112	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*d*) Blackwater fever	115	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*e*) Other and unspecified forms of malaria	113,114 116,117	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	38.—(*a*) Schistosomiasis vesical (S. haematobium)	123·0	277	69	346	19	—	15	—	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*b*) (Schistosomiasis intestinal (S. Mansoni) ...	123·1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*c*) Schistosomiasis pulmonary (S. japonicum) ...	123·2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	d) Other and unspecified Schistosomiasis	123·3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	39. Hydatid disease	125	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	40.—(*a*) Onchocerciasis	127	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*b*) Loiasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*c*) Filariasis (bancrofti)	—	20	11	31	13	—	5	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*d*) Other filariasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	41. Ankylostomiasis	129	3,508	3,973	7,481	185	—	226	—	411	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A	42.—(*a*) Tapeworm (infestation) and other cestode infestations	126	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*b*) Ascariasis	130·0	6,696	8,396	15,092	36	1	64	—	100	1	5,224	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*c*) Guinea worm (dracunculosis) ...	130·3	40	39	79	2	—	3	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*d*) Other diseases due to helminths	124, 128 130·1, 130·2	2,359	2,627	4,986	49	—	75	—	124	—	13,724	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE II—*continued*

Intermediate List Cause Group	*Detailed List Numbers*	*Static dispensaries and out-patient depts of hospitals*			*Hospitals—(In patient)*						*Mobile Dispensaries*
		New cases			*Male patients*		*Female patients*				
		Male	*Female*	*Total cases*	*New cases*	*deaths*	*New cases*	*deaths*	*Total cases*	*Total deaths*	**Attendances**
A 43.—(*a*) Lymphogranuloma venereum ...	037	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*b*) Granuloma inguinale, venereal ...	038	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*c*) Other and unspecified venereal diseases	039	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
(*d*) Food poisoning infection and intoxication	049	1	—	1	2	—	3	—	5	—	—
(*e*) Relapsing fever	071	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*f*) Leptospirosis icterohaemorrhagica (Weil's disease)	072	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*g*) Yaws	073	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*h*) Chickenpox	087	1	2	3	19	—	—	—	19	—	—
(*i*) Dengue	090	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*j*) Trachoma	095	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*k*) Sandfly fever	096·7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*l*) Leishmaniasis	120	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*m*) (i) Trypanosomiasis gambiensis ...	121	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) Trypanosomiasis rhodesiensis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) Other and unspecified Trypanosomiasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*n*) Dermatophytosis	131	18	17	35	11	—	3	—	14	—	72
(*o*) Scabies	135	2,341	2,241	4,582	14	—	10	—	24	—	3,317
(*p*) All other diseases classified as infective and parasitic	036, 054, 059, 063, 064, 070, 074, 086, 088, 089, 093, 096·1–096·6, 096·8, 096·9, 122, 132–134, 136–138	81	54	135	27	2	10	—	37	2	—
A 44. Malignant neoplasm of buccal cavity and pharynx	140–148	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	5	1	—
A 45. Malignant neoplasm of oesophagus ...	150	—	—	—	7	2	3	—	10	2	—
A 46. Malignant neoplasm of stomach	151	1	—	1	24	8	5	1	29	9	—

A	47.	Malignant neoplasm of intestine, except rectum	152, 153	—	—	—	8	2	4	2	12	4	—
A	48.	Malignant neoplasm of rectum	154	—	—	—	2	—	3	1	5	1	—
A	49.	Malignant neoplasm of larynx	161	—	—	—	6	—	3	—	9	—	—
A	50.	Malignant neoplasm of trachea, and of bronchus and lung not specified as secondary	162, 163	—	—	—	9	4	—	—	9	4	—
A	51.	Malignant neoplasm of breast	170	—	—	—	—	—	23	—	23	—	—
A	52.	Malignant neoplasm of cervix uteri ...	171	—	—	—	—	—	104	1	104	1	—
A	53.	Malignant neoplasm of other and unspecified parts of uterus	172–174	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	—	—
A	54.	Malignant neoplasm of prostate	177	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
A	55.	Malignant neoplasm of skin	190, 191	—	—	—	5	—	6	1	11	1	—
A	56.	Malignant neoplasm of bone and connective tissue	196, 197	—	—	—	5	—	13	3	18	3	—
A	57.	Malignant neoplasm of all other and unspecified sites	155–159, 160, 164, 165, 175, 176, 178–181, 192–195, 198, 199	—	—	—	23	6	17	2	40	8	—
A	58.	Leukæmia and aleukæmia	204	—	—	—	3	1	7	2	10	3	—
A	59.	Lymphosarcoma and other neoplasms of lymphatic and hæmatopoietic system	200–203, 205	—	—	—	6	1	3	—	9	1	—
A	60.	Benign neoplasms and neoplasms of unspecified nature	210–239	99	122	221	28	2	183	3	211	5	—
A	61.	Nontoxic goiter	250, 251	1	2	3	2	—	13	—	15	—	1
A	62.	Thyrotoxicosis with or without goiter ...	252	2	1	3	3	—	8	—	11	—	—
A	63.	Diabetes mellitus	260	153	177	330	75	9	104	10	179	19	1
A	64.	—(*a*) Beriberi	280	1	2	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
		(*b*) Pellagra	281	26	55	81	18	2	39	2	57	4	33
		(*c*) Scurvy	282	2	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	4
		(*d*) (i) Kwashiorkor	283	1	3	4	8	1	7	2	15	3	—
		(ii) Other deficiency states	286	1,465	2,465	3,930	133	10	145	15	278	25	1,539
A	65.	—(*a*) Pernicious and other hyperchromic anaemias	290	1	—	1	5	—	5	—	10	—	—
		(*b*) Iron deficiency anaemias (hypochromic)	291	4	7	11	12	—	23	—	35	—	—
		(*c*) Other specified and unspecified anaemias	292, 293	7,910	26,284	34,194	544	13	1,279	14	1,823	27	16,540

TABLE II—*continued*

	Intermediate List Cause Group	*Detailed List Numbers*	*Static dispensaries and out-patient depts of hospitals*			*Hospitals—(In patients)*						*Mobile Dispensaries*
			New cases			*Male patients*		*Female patients*				
			Male	*Female*	*Total cases*	*New cases*	*deaths*	*New cases*	*deaths*	*Total cases*	*Total deaths*	**Attendances**
A	66.—(*a*) Asthma	241	2,258	2,061	4,319	231	12	186	7	417	19	2,054
	(*b*) All other allergic disorders, endocrine, metabolic and blood diseases	240, 242–245, 253, 254, 270–277, 287–289, 294–299	521	572	1,093	20	4	23	4	43	8	23
A	67. Psychoses	300–309	8	2	10	159	—	121	—	280	—	2
A	68. Psychoneuroses and disorders of personality	310–324, 326	66	19	85	145	—	91	—	236	—	—
A	69. Mental deficiency...	325	3	2	5	13	—	5	—	18	—	1
A	70. Vascular lesions affecting central nervous system	330–334	45	12	57	112	36	59	18	171	54	—
A	71. Nonmeningococcal meningitis	340	—	—	—	20	6	8	4	28	10	—
A	72. Multiple sclerosis...	345	1	—	1	7	—	1	—	8	—	5
A	73. Epilepsy	353	164	94	258	69	1	36	—	105	1	15
A	74, Inflammatory diseases of eye	370–379	2,579	2,403	4,982	47	—	26	—	73	—	1,096
A	75. Cataract	385	1	4	5	140	—	173	—	313	—	—
A	76. Glaucoma	387	—	—	—	7	—	5	—	12	—	—
A	77.—(*a*) Otitis externa	390	1,328	1,165	2,493	2	—	1	—	3	—	1,087
	(*b*) Otitis media and mastoiditis ...	391–393	835	930	1,765	27	1	21	1	48	2	3
	(*c*) Other inflammatory diseases of ear	394	716	687	1,403	1	—	—	—	1	—	631
A	78.—(*a*) All other diseases and conditions of eye	380–384, 386, 388, 389	1,197	1,212	2,409	37	—	26	—	63	—	40
	(*b*) All other diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	341–344, 350–352, 354–357, 360–369, 395–398	1,525	1,510	3,035	198	4	128	5	326	9	1,610
A	79. Rheumatic fever	400–402	10	5	15	38	2	39	—	77	2	—
A	80. Chronic rheumatic heart disease ...	410–416	5	12	17	21	3	44	5	65	8	—

A 81.	Arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease	420–422	49	21	70	91	15	76	16	167	31	6
A 82.	Other diseases of heart	430–434	441	400	841	238	44	154	34	392	78	450
A 83.	Hypertension with heart disease	440–443	56	87	143	10	1	5	—	15	1	—
A 84.	Hypertension without mention of heart	444–447	824	979	1,803	74	—	70	—	144	—	248
A 85.	Diseases of arteries	450–456	66	65	131	95	5	42	2	137	7	1
A 86.	Other diseases of circulatory system	460–468	692	442	1,134	202	2	102	3	304	5	34
A 87.	Acute upper respiratory infections	470–475	2,296	3,108	5,404	96	1	104	—	200	1	3,045
A 88.	Influenza	480–483	11,792	12,754	24,546	174	—	125	—	299	—	4,745
A 89.	Lobar pneumonia	490	6	8	14	41	7	12	—	53	7	—
A 90.	Bronchopneumonia	491	4	4	8	56	21	36	14	92	35	2
A 91.	Primary atypical, other and unspecified-pneumonia	492, 493	1	2	3	52	8	33	7	85	15	1
A 92.	Acute bronchitis	500	409	384	793	60	2	45	—	105	2	22
A 93.	Bronchitis, chronic and unqualified	501, 502	2,011	1,455	3,466	289	7	191	3	480	10	502
A 94.	Hypertrophy of tonsils and adenoids	510	21	47	68	14	—	61	—	75	—	49
A 95.	Empyema and abscess of lung	518, 521	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	4	2	—
A 96.	Pleurisy	519	4	3	7	63	—	40	2	103	2	3
A 97.—(*a*)	Pneumoconiosis	523	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(*b*) All other respiratory diseases	511–517, 520–522, 524–527	907	1,065	1,972	71	6	35	8	106	14	2,221
A 98.—(*a*)	Dental caries	530	5,710	5,800	11,510	31	—	57	—	88	—	67
	(*b*) All other diseases of teeth and supporting structures	531–535	602	530	1,132	18	—	26	—	44	—	611
A 99.	Ulcer of stomach	540	3	1	4	30	1	12	1	42	2	1
A 100.	Ulcer of duodenum	541	75	12	87	326	17	35	—	361	17	1
A 101.	Gastritis and duodenitis	543	994	1,044	2,038	59	—	54	1	113	1	1,903
A 102.	Appendicitis	550–553	1	3	4	348	3	591	1	939	4	—
A 103.	Intestinal obstruction and hernia	560, 561, 570	7	2	9	241	17	30	8	271	25	6
A 104.—(*a*)	Gastro-enteritis and colitis between 4 weeks and 2 years	591·0	1,888	1,714	3,602	48	15	35	12	83	27	762
	(*b*) Gastro-enteritis and colitis, ages 2 years and over	571·1	1,626	1,709	3,335	120	14	90	12	210	26	681
	(*c*) Chronic enteritis and ulcerative colitis	572	80	57	137	16	3	5	—	21	3	—
A 105.	Cirrhosis of liver	581	2	2	4	14	2	11	2	25	4	—
A 106.	Choletithiasis and cholecystitis	584, 585	40	57	97	50	1	83	2	133	3	22
A 107.	Other diseases of digestive system	536–539, 542, 544, 545, 573–580, 582, 583, 586, 587	12,074	13,376	25,450	444	13	250	9	694	22	4,706

TABLE II—*continued*

	Intermediate List Cause Group	*Detailed List Numbers*	*Static dispensaries and out-patient depts of hospitals* — *New cases* — *Male*	*Female*	*Total cases*	*Hospitals—(In patients)* — *Male patients* — *New cases*	*deaths*	*Female patients* — *New cases*	*deaths*	*Total cases*	*Total deaths*	*Mobile Dispensaries* **Attendances**
A	108. Acute nephritis	590	32	25	57	30	2	31	4	61	6	—
A	109. Chronic, other and unspecified nephritis	591—594	149	129	278	52	4	48	3	100	7	32
A	110. Infections of kidney	600	13	11	24	20	1	31	1	51	2	—
A	111. Calculi of urinary system	602—604	—	1	1	30	—	9	—	39	—	—
A	112. Hyperplasia of prostate	610	—	—	—	25	3	—	—	25	3	—
A	113. Diseases of breast	620, 621	—	87	87	—	—	33	—	33	—	—
A	114.—(*a*) Hydrocele	613	20	—	20	125	—	—	—	125	—	—
	(*b*) Disorders of menstruation ...	634	—	2,542	2,542	—	—	174	—	174	—	257
	(*c*) All other diseases of the genito-urinary system	601, 603, 605—609, 611—612, 614—617, 622—633, 635—637	1,087	2,820	3,907	175	4	424	1	599	5	132
A	115. Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	640, 641, 681, 682, 684	—	18	18	—	—	61	4	61	4	—
A	116. Toxaemias of pregnancy and the puerperium	642, 652, 685, 686	—	102	102	—	—	436	14	436	14	—
A	117. Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	643, 644, 670—672	—	—	—	—	—	93	13	93	13	—
A	118. Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxaemia	650	—	185	185	—	—	603	3	603	3	15
A	119. Abortion with sepsis	651	—	—	—	—	—	36	5	36	5	—
A	120.—(*a*) Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	645—649, 673—680, 683, 687—689	—	7,421	7,421	—	—	1,238	31	1,238	31	52
	(*b*) Delivery without complications ...	660	—	—	—	—	—	2,855	—	2,855	—	—
A	121. Infections of skin and subcutaneous tissue	690—698	8,021	5,970	13,991	477	—	197	—	674	—	1,632
A	122. Arthritis and spondylitis	720—725	737	728	1,465	88	—	65	1	153	1	18
A	123. Muscular rheumatism, and rheumatism, unspecified	726, 727	5,748	8,019	13,767	130	—	84	—	214	—	3,358

A	124. Osteomyelitis and periostitis	730	1	—	1	28	2	5	—	33	2	—	
A	125. Ankylosis and acquired musculoskeletal deformities...	...737, 745—749	2	—	2	3	—	3	—	6	—	—	
A	126.—(*a*) Chronic ulcer of skin (including tropical ulcer)	715	39	13	52	19	—	7	—	26	—	19	
	(*b*) All other diseases of skin ...	700—714, 716	2,018	2,213	4,231	118	1	49	—	167	1	984	
	(*c*) All other diseases of musculoskeletal system	731—736, 738—744	131	142	273	42	—	7	—	49	—	19	
A	127. Spina bifida and meningocele	751	—	—	—	4	1	5	2	9	3	—	
A	128. Congenital malformations of circulatory system	754	—	—	—	6	2	4	—	10	2	—	
A	129. All other congenital malformations	750, 752, 753, 755—759	18	7	25	32	4	25	—	57	4	—	
A	130. Birth injuries	760, 761	—	—	—	7	6	1	—	8	6	—	
A	131. Postnatal asphyxia and atelectasis ...	762	—	—	—	38	34	32	28	70	62	—	
A	132.—(*a*) Diarrhœa of newborn (under 4 weeks)	764	3	3	6	10	3	2	1	12	4	19	
	(*b*) Ophthalmia necnatorum	765	—	2	2	1	1	2	—	3	1	—	
	(*c*) Other infections of newborn	...763, 766—768	20	16	36	14	10	6	3	20	13	—	
A	133. Haemolytic disease of newborn ...	770	—	—	—	6	4	3	1	9	5	—	
A	134. All other defined diseases of early infancy	769, 771, 772	3	2	5	—	—	2	1	2	1	40	
A	135. Ill-defined diseases peculiar to early infancy, and immaturity unqualified	773—776	13	14	27	94	77	86	77	180	154	16	
A	136. Senility without mention of psychosis ...	794	89	117	206	35	5	42	2	77	7	—	
A	137.—(*a*) Pyrexia of unknown origin ...	788·8	1,271	1,453	2,724	80	4	42	—	122	4	2,820	
	(*b*) Observation, without need for further medical care	793	61	89	150	135	—	558	—	693	—	—	
	(*c*) All other ill-defined causes of morbidity	780—787, 788·1—788·7, 788·9, 789—792, 795	8,493	12,926	21,419	559	39	417	22	976	61	3,635	
	TOTAL		108,848	148,932	257,780	9,075	632	14,036	509	23,111	1,141	81,117	

TABLE II—*continued*

Intermediate List Cause Groups	*Detailed List Numbers*	*Static dispensaries and out-patient depts of hospitals*			*Hospitals—(In patients)*						*Mobile Dispensaries*
		New cases			*Male patients*		*Female patients*				
		Male	*Female*	*Total cases*	*New cases*	*deaths*	*New cases*	*deaths*	*Total cases*	*Total deaths*	**Attendances**
"E CODE" ALTERNATIVE CLASSIFICATION OF ACCIDENTS, POISONINGS AND VIOLENCE (EXTERNAL CAUSE)											
AE 138. Motor vehicle accidents...	E 810–E 835	170	69	239	367	28	119	16	486	44	—
AE 139. Other transport accidents ...	E 800–E 802, E 840–E 866	688	222	910	159	3	18	—	177	3	—
AE 140. Accidental poisoning	E 870–E 895	37	10	47	45	3	31	2	76	5	—
AE 141. Accidental falls	E 900–E 904	5,367	2,167	7,534	572	4	168	1	740	5	232
AE 142. Accident caused by machinery	E 912	79	—	79	19	—	—	—	19	—	—
AE 143. Accident caused by fire and explosion of combustible material	E 916	65	79	144	16	1	25	10	41	11	—
AE 144. Accident caused by hot substance, corrosive liquid, steam, and radiation	E 917, E 918	408	254	662	103	9	94	14	197	23	49
AE 145. Accident caused by firearm	E 919	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	6	1	—
AE 146. Accidental drowning and submersion ...	E 929	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	5	1	—
AE 147.—(*a*) Foreign body entering eye and adnexa	E 920	679	190	869	9	—	—	—	9	—	6
(*b*) Foreign body entering other orifice	E 923	198	199	397	7	—	6	—	13	—	—
(*c*) Accidents caused by bites and stings of venenous animals and insects ...	E 927	29	7	36	4	—	2	—	6	—	—
(*d*) Other accidents caused by animals	E 928	497	297	794	18	—	4	1	22	1	1
(*e*) All other accidental causes	E 910–E 911, E 913–E 915, E 921–E 922, E 924–E 926, E 930–E 965	27,756	11,366	39,122	548	3	127	4	675	7	326
AE 148. Suicide and self-inflicted injury ...	E 970–E 979	1	—	1	98	16	47	1	145	17	—
AE 149. Homicide and injury purposely inflicted by other persons (not in war) ...	E 980–E 985	1,603	706	2,309	415	4	132	—	547	4	—
AE 150. Injury resulting from operations of war	E 990–E 999	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL		146,425	164,498	310,923	11,463	705	14,812	558	26,275	1,263	81,731

"N CODE". Alternative Classification of Accidents, Poisonings and Voilence (Nature of Injury)										
Sub-Total to A 137 *brought forward* ...		108,848	148,392	257,780	9,075	632	14,036	509	23,111	1,141	81,117
AN 138. Fracture of skull	N 800–N 804	2	—	2	77	19	15	7	192	26	—
AN 139. Fracture of spine and trunk	N 805–N 809	70	18	88	68	6	20	2	88	8	—
AN 140. Fracture of limbs	N 810–N 829	970	489	1,459	338	3	112	4	450	7	1
AN 141. Dislocation without fracture	N 830–N 839	92	32	124	21	—	5	—	26	—	—
AN 142. Sprains and strains of joint and adjacent muscles	N 840–N 848	572	227	799	41	—	11	—	52	—	39
AN 143. Head injury (excluding fracture) ...	N 850–N 856	1,969	699	2,668	257	1	54	2	311	3	—
AN 144. Internal injury of chest, abdomen, and pelvis	N 860–N 869	—	—	—	18	10	6	4	24	14	—
AN 145. Laceration and open wonnds	N 870–N 908	15,921	6,196	22,117	655	3	106	1	761	4	59
AN 146. Superficial injury, contusion and crushing with intact skin surface ...	N 910–N 929	16,229	7,035	23,264	592	—	195	—	787	—	460
AN 147. Effects of foreign body entering through orifice	N 930–N 936	864	379	1,243	16	—	6	—	22	—	6
AN 148. Burns	N 940–N 949	473	333	806	119	10	119	24	238	34	49
AN 149. Effects of poisons	N 960–N 979	67	17	84	133	18	80	3	213	21	—
AN 150. All other and unspecified effects of external causes	N 950–N 959, N 980–N 999	348	141	489	53	3	47	2	100	5	—
Total		146,425	164,498	310,923	11,463	705	14,812	558	26,275	1,263	81,731

TABLE III

Main Causes of Morbidity—1956

Diseases	*In-patients at hospitals*	*Out-patients at hospitals and dispensaries*
Tuberculosis (all forms)	532	4
Syphilis and its sequelae	124	412
Gonococcal infections	12	65
Dysentery (all forms)	135	2,853
Schistosomiasis vesical	34	346
Filariasis (bancrofti)	18	31
Ankylostomiasis	411	7,481
Ascariasis	100	15,092
Scabies	24	4,582
Avitaminoses and other deficiency states ...	352	4,020
Anaemias	1,868	34,206
Asthma	417	4,319
Influenza	299	24,546
Pneumonias	230	25
Bronchitis (all forms)	585	4,259
Diseases of teeth and supporting structures ...	132	12,642
Gastro-enteritis and colitis (between 4 weeks and 2 years)	83	3,602
Gastro-enteritis and colitis (between 2 years and over)	210	3,335
Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	2,467*	7,726
Diseases of the skin and the cellular tissue ..	867	18,274
Muscular rheumatism and rheumatism unspecified	214	13,767
Accidents, poisoning, and violence	3,164	53,143

*Excluding 2,855 normal deliveries.

TABLE IV

Morbidity and Mortality in Hospitals by groups of Diseases (International Classification—1948)

Group	Male		Female		Total	
	Cases	*Deaths*	*Cases*	*Deaths*	*Cases*	*Deaths*
I	1,089	87	915	52	2,004	139
II	133	27	378	16	511	43
III	492	38	525	40	1,017	78
IV	561	13	1,307	14	1,868	27
V	317	—	217	—	534	—
VI	667	48	484	28	1,151	76
VII	769	72	532	60	1,031	132
VIII	919	54	683	34	1,602	88
IX	1,745	86	1,279	48	3,024	134
X	457	14	750	9	1,207	23
XI	—	—	5,322	70	5,322	70
XII	614	1	253	—	867	1
XIII	291	2	164	1	455	3
XIV	42	7	34	2	76	9
XV	170	135	134	111	304	246
XVI	809	48	1,059	24	1,868	72
XVII	2,388	73	776	49	3,164	122
Totals ...	11,463	705	14,812	558	26,275	1,263

Group I—Infective and parasitic diseases.
II—Neoplasms.
III—Allergic, endocrine system, metabolic and nutritional diseases.
IV—Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs.
V—Mental, psychoneurotic and personality disorders.
VI—Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs.
VII—Diseases of the circulatory system.
VIII—Diseases of the respiratory system.
IX—Diseases of the digestive system.
X—Diseases of the genito-urinary system.
XI—Deliveries and complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium.
XII—Diseases of the skin and cellular tissue.
XIII—Diseases of the bones and organs of movement.
XIV—Congenital malformations.
XV—Certain diseases of early infancy.
XVI—Symptoms, senility and ill-defined conditions.
XVII—Accidents, poisonings and violence.

TABLE V

Total, Births and Deaths for period 1940—1956

Year	*Births*	*Deaths*
1940	12,145	10,373
1941	13,430	10,436
1942	13,553	11,927
1943	13,604	10,642
1944	18,258	11,355
1945	16,290	15,277
1946	16,427	12,528
1947	18,926	8,680
1948	19,039	10,518
1949	20,472	7,384
1950	23,110	6,453
1951	22,968	7,208
1952	24,120	7,447
1953	23,896	8,299
1954	21,926	8,462
1955	22,970	7,088
1956	24,910	6,739

TABLE VI

DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES 1947—1956 (INTERNATIONAL LIST 1938 REVISION

Year	Group I		Group II		Group III		Group IV		Group V		Group VI		Group VII		Group VIII		Group IX	
	No. of dths	Death rate %	No. of dths	Death rate %	No. of dths	Death rate %	No. of dths	Death rate %	No. of dths	Deaih rate %	No. of dths	Death rate %	No. of dths	Death rate %	No. of dths	Death rate %	No. of dths	Death rate %
1947 ...	2,366	5·47	76	0·17	111	0·26	577	1·33	4	0·01	339	0·78	206	0·48	893	2·06	1,026	2·37
1948 ...	4,052	9·2	88	0·2	130	0·3	451	1·0	—	0	378	0·8	294	0·6	1,318	3·0	1,078	2·4
1949 ...	1,603	3·60	121	0·27	127	0·28	470	1·05	—	0	365	0·82	381	0·85	831	1·87	1,085	2·44
1950 ...	975	2·1	122	0·3	103	0·2	378	0·8	—	0	387	0·8	410	0·9	978	2·1	913	2·0
1951 ...	863	1·8	103	0·2	134	0·3	483	1·0	1	0	437	0·9	399	0·8	1,072	2·2	1,335	2·8
1952 ...	713	1·4	128	0·3	149	0·3	515	1·0	1	0	457	0·9	441	0·9	1,150	2·3	1,301	2·6
1953 ...	980	1·9	139	0·3	176	0·3	504	1·0	6	0	515	1·0	559	1·1	1,323	2·6	1,269	2·5
1954 ...	665	1·3	145	0·3	196	0·4	560	1·1	5	0	470	0·9	553	1·0	1,206	2·3	1,747	3·3
1955 ...	311	0·6	144	0·3	277	0.5	457	0·8	6	0	392	0·7	573	1·0	762	1·4	1,352	2·5
1956 ...	354	0·6	149	0·3	344	0·6	413	0·7	7	0	398	0·7	498	0·9	773	1·4	865	1·5

Group I—Infective and parasitic diseases
,, II—Cancer and other tumours
,, III—Rheumatism, diseases of nutrition and of endocrine glands, other general diseases and deficiency diseases
,, IV—Diseases of blood and blood forming organs
,, V—Chronic poisoning and intoxication
,, VI—Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs
,, VII—Diseases of the circulatory system
,, VIII—Diseases of the respiratory system
,, IX—Diseases of the digestive system

The International List 1948 Revision has been adopted since 1955.

TABLE VI—*Continued*

DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES 1947–1956 (INTERNATIONAL LIST 1938 REVISION)

Year	Group X		Group XI		Group XII		Group XIII		Group XIV		Group XV		Group XVI		Group XVII		Group XVIII	
	No. of deaths	Death rate %	No. of deaths	Death rate %	No. of deaths	Death rate %	No. of deaths	Death rate %	No. of deaths	Death rate %	No. of deaths	Death rate %	No. of deaths	Death rate %	No. of deaths	Death rate %	No. of deaths	Death rate %
1947 ...	300	0·69	106	0·24	47	0·11	3	0	6	0·01	1,129	2·61	381	0·88	172	0·40	938	2·17
1948 ...	262	0·6	84	0·2	44	0·1	5	0	9	0	1,099	2·3	285	0·6	171	0·4	859	1·9
1949 ...	286	0·64	83	0·2	23	0·05	6	0·01	5	0	842	1·89	226	0·50	189	0·42	741	1·66
1950 ...	261	0·6	86	0·2	34	0·1	7	0	10	0	782	1·7	202	0·4	193	0·4	612	1·3
1951 ...	272	0·6	78	0·2	28	0·1	8	0	14	0	793	1·6	248	0·5	197	0·4	743	1·5
1952 ...	315	0·6	82	0·2	15	0	19	0	11	0	852	1·7	328	0.6	205	0·4	765	1·5
1953 ...	340	0·7	69	0·1	22	0	38	0·01	9	0	803	1·6	357	0·7	209	0·4	981	1·9
1954 ...	350	0·7	40	0·1	20	0	19	0	6	0	677	1·3	382	0·7	221	0·4	1,200	2·3
1955 ...	161	0·3	36	0·1	9	0	22	0	10	0	661	1·2	1,668	3·0	247	0·4	—	—
1956 ...	111	0·2	57	0·1	12	0	38	0·1	13	0	867	1·5	1,581	2·8	259	0·5	—	—

Group X —Diseases of urinary and genital organs
Group XI —Diseases of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperal state
Group XII —Diseases of skin and cellular tissue
Group XIII —Diseases of bones and organs of movement
Group XIV —Congenital malformation
Group XV —Diseases peculiar to the first year of life
Group XVI —Senility, old age
Group XVII —Deaths from violence
Group XVIII —Ill-defined causes of death.

The International list 1948 Revision has been adopted since 1955

TABLE VII

Summary of Work Performed by the Health Inspectorate

Districts or Sections	*Examination of foodstuffs*	*Samples of foodstuffs submitted for analysis*	*Seizures*	*Inspection of food premises*	*Visits to slaughter houses*	*Visits to markets*	*Inspection of schools*	*Inspection of offensive trades*	*Inspection of other premises*	*Inspection on account of new buildings*	*Inspection in connection with mosquito control*	*Inspection in connection with notifiable diseases and contacts*	*Inspection in connection with night soil service*	*Inspection in connection with scavenging service*	*Disinfections carried out*	*No. of notices, orders and requests served*	*Cremations attended to*
Port Louis District ...	307	92	22	2,078	3	37	176	35	19,081	544	19,081	75	—	—	41	967	44
Pamplemousses District ...	1,503	78	3	592	—	—	197	100	11,813	786	12,702	30	229	435	13	1,060	102
Riv. du Rempart District	373	70	10	930	—	—	67	4	5,428	640	5,455	46	—	213	14	820	71
Flacq—North Section ...	210	—	27	781	375	365	—	54	—	323	3,411	48	365	365	8	405	89
Flacq—South Section ...	73	—	—	278	78	—	—	10	5,681	136	3,100	18	250	280	3	458	16
Grand Port District ...	620	105	27	1,380	285	189	154	5	—	308	4,136	228	86	1,347	57	873	54
Savanne District	632	36	48	502	143	—	75	2	—	345	5,254	19	191	365	17	355	50
Curepipe Section	1,206	—	—	1,434	53	70	66	5	8,239	490	534	28	3,422	184	11	237	28
Vacoas Section	204	—	4	204	—	1,272	51	2	8,794	306	8,794	4	196	1,590	6	1,512	45
Rose Hill Section... ...	1,655	16	4	1,150	10	103	25	2	5,539	566	4,154	148	130	365	31	466	59
Moka District	55	36	2	407	—	365	89	1	5,065	170	5,065	18	104	365	17	514	31
Black River District ...	120	—	—	129	—	—	78	30	5,151	137	382	22	105	302	5	503	2
TOTAL ...	6,958	433	147	9,865	947	2,401	978	250	74,791	4,751	72,068	684	5,078	5,811	223	8,170	591

TABLE VIII

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS IN PORT LOUIS HARBOUR DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1956

Month	*No. of incoming vessels*	*No. admitted to Pratique on arrival*	*No. arriving from infected ports*	*No. of crew examined*	*No. of Passengers*		*No. of Passengers under surveillance*	*No. of vessels admitted to Pratique after disinfection of linen and effects of Passengers and Crew*	*No. of vessels admitted to Pratique after Fumigation of Cargo*	*No. of vessels detained for purposes of disinfection on account of Plague, Cholera and Smallpox*
					Landing	*Transit*				
January	26	24	2	1,872	1,380	547	Nil	4	12	—
February	20	18	2	1,599	276	575	—	2	11	—
March	33	27	6	2,071	650	697	—	2	11	—
April	20	18	2	1,598	64	8	—	3	11	—
May	17	16	1	1,245	35	53	—	3	8	—
June	26	23	3	1,734	91	157	—	5	5	—
July	21	20	1	1,476	181	511	—	2	8	—
August	23	15	8	1,590	223	520	—	7	4	—
September	31	21	10	2,051	248	584	—	7	8	—
October	35	25	10	1,822	181	453	—	13	10	—
November	32	22	10	2,473	610	1,227	—	7	4	—
December	40	31	9	2,520	466	864	—	2	7	—
TOTAL ...	324	260	64	22,051	4,405	6,196	—	57	99	—

6351/11/58—300

FIGURE 1

TREND OF POPULATION 1935 TO 1956

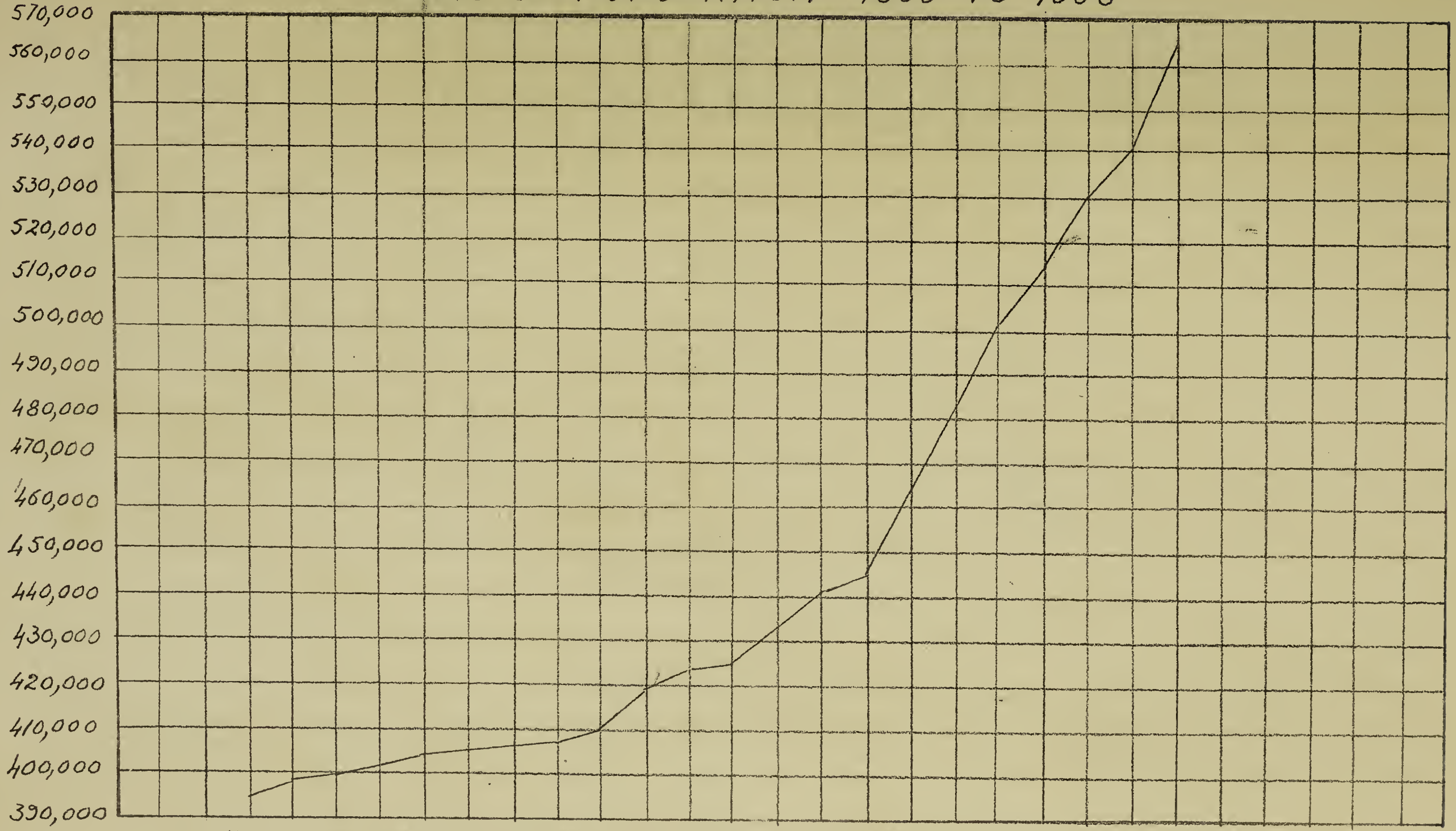


FIGURE II

CRUDE BIRTH AND DEATH RATES 1945 TO 1956

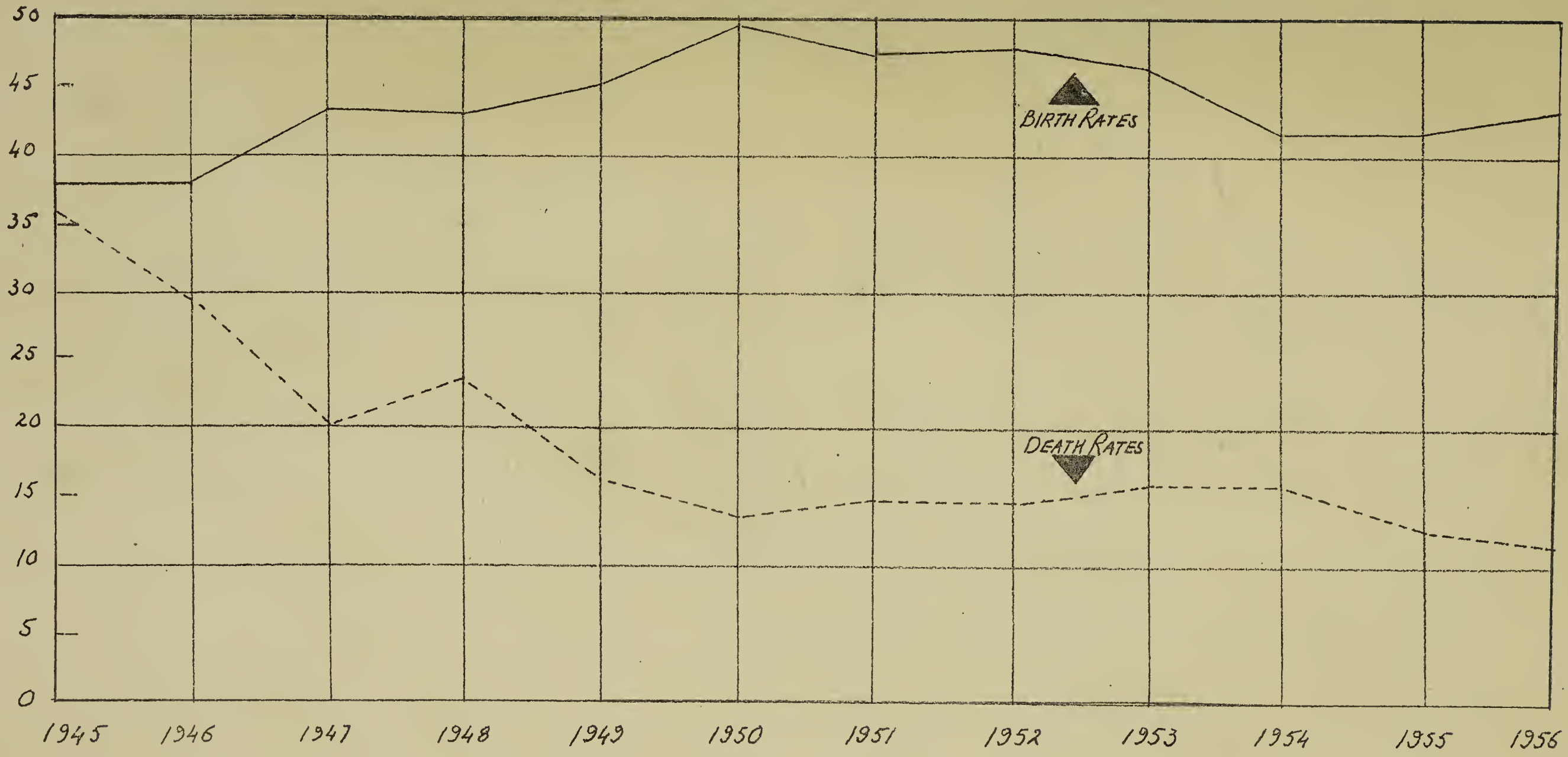


FIGURE III

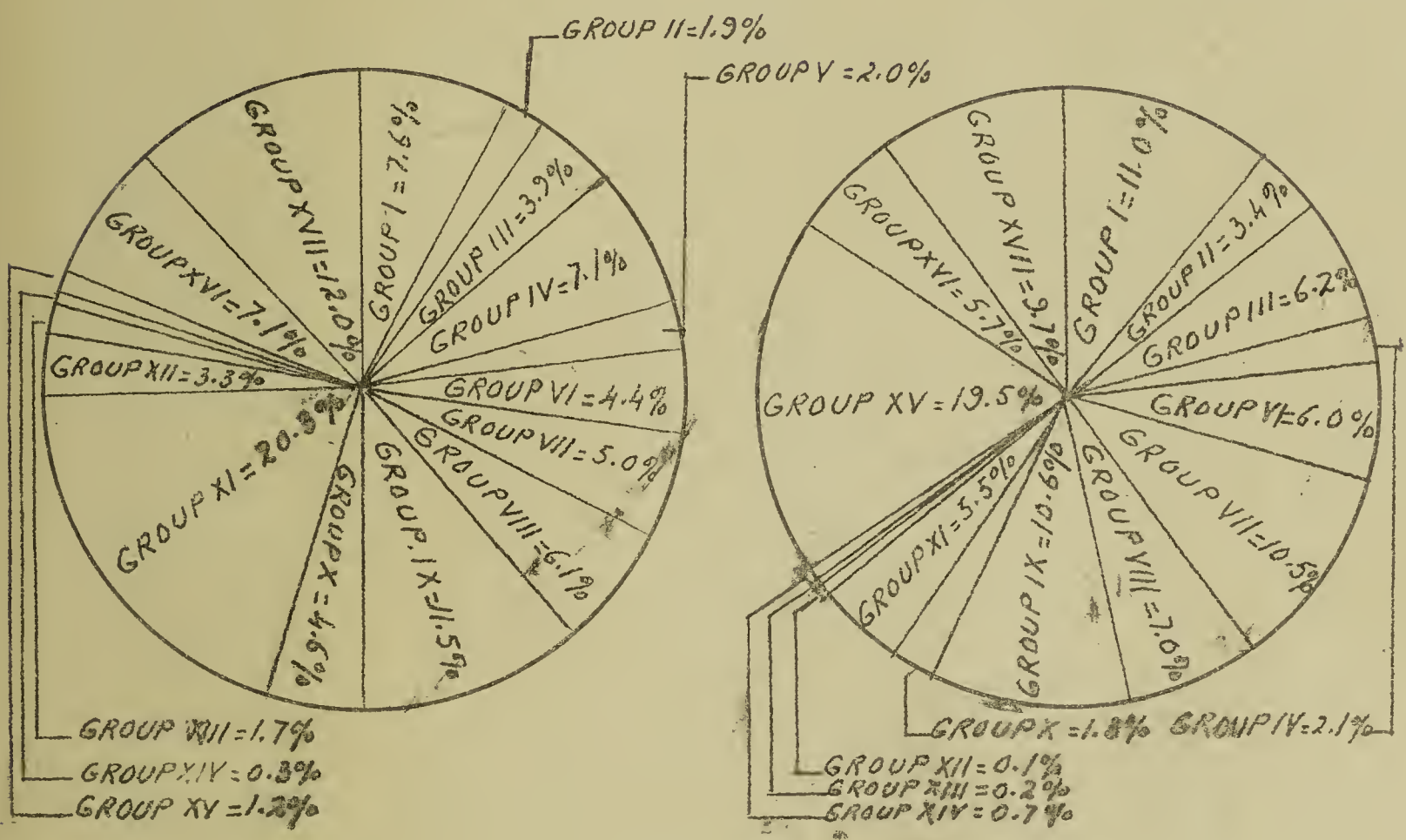
YEAR 1956

Proportion in percentages of diseases in hospital, by Section of the INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES, 1948, to total cases treated in hospital.

TOTAL INCIDENCE = 26,275

Proportion in percentages of deaths in hospital, by Section of the INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES, 1948, to total deaths in hospital.

TOTAL DEATHS = 1,263



Reference

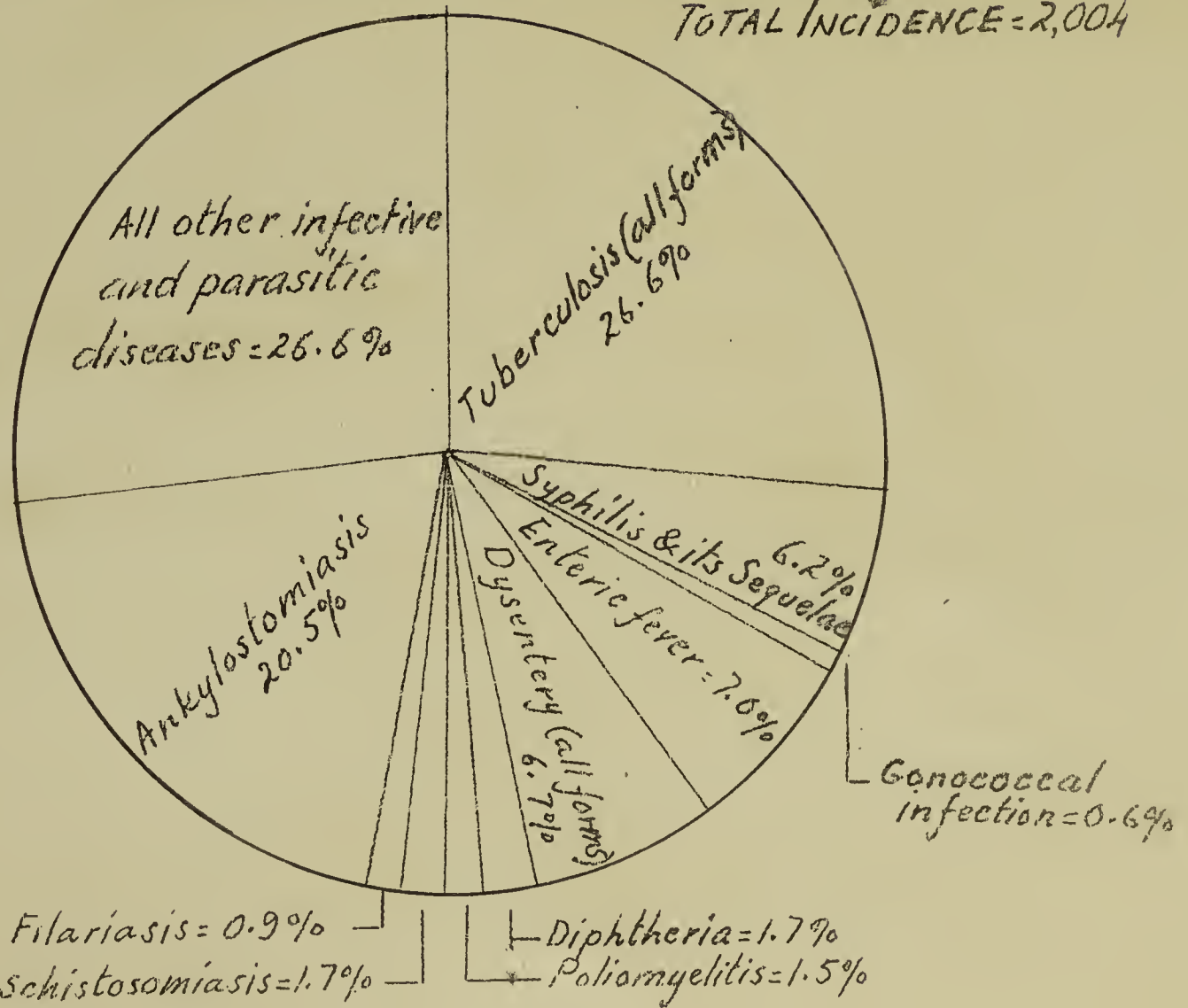
GROUP I. Infective and Parasitic Diseases.
GROUP II. Neoplasms.
GROUP III. Allergic, Endocrine System, Metabolic and Nutritional Diseases.
GROUP IV. Diseases of the Blood and Blood forming organs.
GROUP V. Mental Psychoneurotic and personality disorders.
GROUP VI. Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs.
GROUP VII. Diseases of the Circulatory system.
GROUP VIII. Diseases of the Respiratory system.
GROUP IX. Diseases of the Digestive system.
GROUP X. Diseases of the Genito-Urinary system.
GROUP XI. Deliveries and complications of pregnancy, childbirth and Puerperium.
GROUP XII. Diseases of the skin and cellular tissue.
GROUP XIII. Diseases of the Bones and organs of movement.
GROUP XIV. Congenital Malformations
GROUP XV. Certain Diseases of early infancy.
GROUP XVI. Symtoms, Senility and ill-defined conditions.
GROUP XVII. Accidents, Poisonings and Violence.

FIGURE IV.

YEAR 1956

Proportion in percentages of certain infective and parasitic diseases treated in hospital to total cases of infective and parasitic diseases treated. (Section I of INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES), injuries and causes of death.

TOTAL INCIDENCE = 2,004



Proportion in percentages of deaths in hospital due to certain infective and parasitic diseases to total deaths in hospital, due to infective and parasitic diseases.

TOTAL DEATHS = 139